FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 083 *29 April 1982*

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Costa Mendez Calls Falklands 'UK's Vietnam' A 1
Costa Mendez Says U.S. Proposals Not Rejected A 1
Colombian, Argentine Ministers Exchange Words [Bogota] A 2
Chile Explains Abstention on Resolution Vote A 2
Cuban Delegate Discusses Sugar Countries' Talks [Managua] A 3
Chilean, Argentine Delegations Discussing Treaty A 4

ARGENTINA

UK Declares Complete Air, Naval Blockade B 1
Sources Report British Ship Burning at Port Leith B 1
Navy Chief Skeptical B 1
Military Denies Knowledge B 1
Navy Reports Death of Corporal on South Georgia B 1
Military Weapons in South Georgia Described B 2
Navy Officer Minimizes Loss of South Georgia B 2
[HERALD 28 Apr]
Communique No 35 on Falklands Military Actions B 4
Coast Defenses, Morale Ready for British Threat B 4
Fleet, Air Force Ready B 4
Falklands Defense Strengthened B 4
More on Defenses B 5
Falklands Blockade Evaded B 6
Weather Suspends Airlift B 6
Brazil, Venezuela Plan to Harass British Fleet B 6
Reportage on Government News Management B 6
Communique No 36 B 6
Military News Restricted B 6
Ham Operations Suspended B 7
Economy Minister Seeks Bankers' Support B 7
Withdrawals Decrease [LA PRENSA 28 Apr] B 8
International Credit Tightens [HERALD 27 Apr] B 8
Official To Complain Against EEC to GATT B 8
Import Permits Issued to Date Are Cancelled B 9
Trade Balance Surplus in First Quarter Reported B 9
CGT Supports National Cause, Not Government B 9
[COSAS 22 Apr]
Multiparty Group Withholds Government Criticism B 10
[HERALD 28 Apr]
TELAM Cites Moscow Warning to Great Britain B 11
Paper Warns Against Soviet Interference in Crisis B 12
[LA PRENSA 25 Apr]
LA PRENSA Sees UK Reaction Anachronistic [7 Apr] B 13
U.S. Criticized for Not Siding With OAS B 14
Chilean Officer Arrested for Espionage B 15

BOLIVIA

National Security Council in 'Permanent Session' C 1
President Reiterates Support for Argentina C 1
Former President Proposes Transition Government C 1

BRAZIL

President Satisfied at OAS Argentina Resolution D 1
Reporter Charges Mistreatment in Argentina D 1
Sales of Bandeirante Planes to Argentina Okayed D 1
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 28 Apr]
Neto Secures $446.3-Million Loan in France D 2
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 21 Apr]
Briefs: Employment Figures D 2

COLOMBIA

Ministry Denies Relations With Argentina Cool F 1
Argentine 'Respect' F 1

VENEZUELA

Official Denies Plan To Invade Essequibo L 1
PVDSA Withdraws Funds From British Banks L 1
El Salvador's Majano Meets With Local Figures L 1

MEXICO

Senate Wants U.S. To Stop Deporting Workers M 1
Editorial Scores Policy M 1
Trade With Cuba To Reach $200 Million in 1982 M 2
Radioactive Capsule Stolen in Tabasco M 2

PANAMA

Government Attacked Over Cabinet Changes N 1
LA PRENSA Comments [27 Apr] N 1
Guard's Policy Scored [LA PRENSA 28 Apr] N 1
Party Criticizes Changes [LA PRENSA 27 Apr] N 2
PDC Leader's Criticism [LA PRENSA 28 Apr] N 2

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Constituent Assembly Issues Decree on Functions P 1
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 17 Apr]
Lack of Quorum Prevents Choosing of President P 2
PDC Explains Party's Absence at Assembly Meeting P 3
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 27 Apr]
Major d'Aubuisson Sees National Political Unity P 3
Farabundo Marti Reportedly Resumes Transmissions P 4
[Managua]

GUATEMALA

Junta Continues Investigating Former Officials P 4

HONDURAS

People's Revolutionary Forces Issue Communique P 5
SAHSA Airliner Hijacked Within Country P 7
FPR Charged P 7
Some Hostages Released P 7
Hijackers' Demands P 7
Official Discusses Issues P 8
Hijackers Identified P 9
More on Demands P 10

NICARAGUA

BARRICADA Denounces U.S. Delaying Tactics [23 Apr] P 10
Foreign Minister Pledges Support for Argentina P 11
Agrarian Tribunal Reports on Land Expropriations P 12

CUBA

Havana Notes Start of Ocean Venture Maneuvers Q 1
Montane Opens Revolutionary Theory Conference Q 1
Armed Struggle Essential Q 1
FMLN Delegate Interviewed Q 2
Conference Concludes Q 3

OTHER COUNTRIES

BAHAMAS

Parliament Dissolved; Election Set for 10 June V 1

GUYANA

Armed Forces Declared on State of Alert V 1

PERU

Port Workers Declare Boycott on British Ships V 1

URUGUAY

Argentine, UK Battle Casualties Would Be Treated V 1

COSTA MENDEZ CALLS FALKLANDS 'UK'S VIETNAM'

LD282012 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1944 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] The Falkland Islands could become "Britain's Vietnam" the Argentine foreign minister, Mr Costa Mendez, warned tonight. Speaking in New York after a meeting of the Organisation of American States, he spoke of his reaction to Britain's total exclusion zone around the islands. He said: "Our reaction -- you will feel it in the air or on the land or in the sea. What I feel is that the Malvinas could be Britain's Vietnam."

"It is a place 10,000 miles from London and very difficult to defend," he added. He sharply criticised Mrs Thatcher's decision to send "this absurd fleet" to "a barren, rocky island to defend 1,800 people, most of them employees of a monopolistic company." The Third World, he said, did not support Britain's cause. Mr Costa Mendez, who was being interviewed by David Frost for BBC Radio, warned the question of sovereignty was not something to be left to the islanders.

"This is a problem of Argentina, not of the islanders," he said. "We cannot leave it up to the judgment of 1,800 people whether our land is our land or not." But he stressed his government would be prepared to compensate the islanders if they decided to leave their homes. "They are free to leave and we will compensate them," he said. The Falklands had been relying on Argentina for communications, food and welfare and the islanders would retain their local rights under the Argentine flag, he said.

He praised the efforts of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig. "Haig has done excellent work and made a gallant effort for the cause of peace," he said. "We are studying his latest proposal." But Mr Costa Mendez suggested there were "strong doubts" whether the United States would openly side with Britain if peace talks broke down. "I have always thought that for the U.S. Government it is a very difficult choice between a very old ally and a very strong interest in Europe -- but also a very strong interest in the developing world and especially in Latin America," he said.

He indicated the Argentine take-over of the Falklands now had the backing of the whole of Latin America. "If two great nations like the USA and Great Britain and a small country like Argentina can't arrive at a solution involving 1,800 people then we are lost," he said.

COSTA MENDEZ SAYS U.S. PROPOSALS NOT REJECTED

PY282135 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2110 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Washington, 28 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez said today that Argentina has not rejected the U.S. proposals for a peaceful solution to the crisis with Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands and that Argentina hoped to respond to them as soon as possible. Costa Mendez said after his half-hour meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig that the effort by the United States represented one of the paths toward peace. He also told journalists: We are not discarding that path.

The Argentine foreign minister today visited the State Department to hold his first formal meeting with Haig since his arrival Sunday to participate in the OAS meeting of foreign ministers. Prior to this, the State Department had said that Argentina and Great Britain were reviewing the latest U.S. proposal, but that the dispute reached a critical point.

Costa Mendez said the U.S. plan continued to be reviewed and studied in Buenos Aires. Asked when a diplomatic answer would be given, he replied: I have not set a deadline for it yet, but we would like to do it as soon as possible. Haig has already visited Buenos Aires on two occasions in an attempt to resolve the dispute which broke out on 2 April when Argentine troops occupied the islands in the South Atlantic.

However, it seems that a possible further visit by Haig was not discussed today. He (Haig) has not informed me of his plans, said the Argentine foreign minister. But he is always welcome in Buenos Aires, he added. Costa Mendez indicated that he had informed Haig that the U.S. plan was under study, review and analysis by the Argentine Government and that they would give an answer.

The OAS meeting ended today with the drafting of a resolution calling for a truce and acknowledging Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas. Costa Mendez said he would leave Washington tonight. Costa Mendez added that he might be going to New York, but that he had no plans to make a speech at the United Nations.

After the talks with Costa Mendez, Haig intended to inform the Senate of the status of his diplomatic efforts during a meeting behind closed doors to be held at the Congress.

The assertion that the proposals had not been rejected by any of the parties and that the U.S. effort to preserve peace continued was made by the State Department after Great Britain had declared a total air and naval blockade around the Malvinas beginning at 11 GMT this coming Friday. It is clear in the light of the announcement (of the blockade) that the crisis has reached a critical point, said Dean Fisher, spokesman for the State Department. Fisher added that the United States continued to be at the disposal of the two parties in an effort to achieve a peaceful solution.

COLOMBIAN, ARGENTINE MINISTERS EXCHANGE WORDS

PA281450 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Guillermo Rodriguez report]

[Text] Washington -- A few hours ago the foreign ministers of Colombia and Argentina had an unexpected and virulent exchange of words on this radio station because of Colombia's position on implementation of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty.

Learning that this correspondent was in the OAS meeting hall, Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez, who usually does not grant interviews, came to me to express his surprise over Colombia's rejection of his country's demands. Costa Mendez said he did not believe this position was endorsed by the Colombian people.

Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds, for his part, answered even more strongly and told this correspondent that Colombia has the privilege -- a privilege that has become rare in this continent -- of electing its governments through popular vote. In an implicit reference to Argentina, Lemos Simmonds said the Colombian Government has the sovereign and free mandate of the nation and that when it voices an opinion at international forums it is merely fulfilling that will.

Minister Lemos Simmonds said in conclusion that the Colombian Government fortunately has the support other governments lack.

CHILE EXPLAINS ABSTENTION ON RESOLUTION VOTE

PY290518 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 2357 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Foreign Ministry statement dated 28 April]

[Text] The consultative body of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR) early this morning approved a resolution on the conflict between the Republic of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Chilean Government, in keeping with the legal tradition of its foreign policy, abstained from voting on that resolution. The Chilean delegation explained its abstention in the following statement:

On 2 April 1982 my government expressed its deep concern over the grave events between the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain, and it also reasserted its unchanged support for international law and for the peaceful solution of disputes.

We have thus agreed with many countries which made fervent appeals to settle the dispute, inspired by the purposes and by the application of the principles set forth in the UN and OAS Charters. However, despite those appeals, we had to regret that actions which render the situation increasingly difficult have continued to take place.

Under these circumstances, we deem the timely actions undertaken by both the United Nations and the OAS to be very important. We also support the mediation undertaken by another signatory country of this treaty. The Chilean Government, in keeping with its traditional position of respect for the law, has endorsed Argentina's request invoking the TIAR because Chile believes that any TIAR member can invoke the treaty if, as has happened, a situation which endangers the peace of America arises.

However, the Chilean Government believes that, in keeping with the respective terms of the TIAR and of the OAS and UN Charters, this consultative organ should have acted in accordance with the resolution adopted by the UN Security Council in order not to obstruct either the provisional measure adopted or the efforts to achieve a peaceful solution based on the existing mechanisms.

In addition to this general consideration, my delegation must advance a special consideration regarding a concept included in the draft. I am referring to the paragraph whereby a statement issued by the Inter-American Juridical Committee is given the status of an internatioanl rule. In a mechanism for peace and security, we consider that the declarations and acts of diverse natures by consultative organs, no matter how respectable the latter are, cannot be transformed into politically binding expressions.

For all these reasons the Government of Chile has decided to abstain from voting on the resolution we are referring to. Our abstention notwithstadning, we will continue to exert all the efforts we possibly can in order to preserve peace, and we will do so guided by our most pure American spirit. The position Chile has assumed during the unfolding of this crisis reflects the coherence of its foreign policy, which strictly adheres to principles and norms of international law.

CUBAN DELEGATE DISCUSSES SUGAR COUNTRIES' TALKS

PA290520 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0600 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Excerpt] The position of our revolutionary government at the 16th plenary meeting of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean Sugar Exporting Countries, GEPLACEA, has the total support of the member nations and other participants at the event. This statement was made by Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrizas, who was asked about the proposal submitted yesterday to GEPLACEA by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Government Junta of National Reconstruction.

The position of our revolutionary government contrasts with the divisionist policy on international trade posed by the government of Ronald Reagan, Cabrizas noted. Here is the statement by Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Cabrizas:

[Begin recording] Concering the opening of the meeting, the statement made by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega coincides in every way with the position supporting the member nations of GEPLACEA. In fact, his call for unity against a divisionist policy is an element to be considered in the talks now underway. He underlined the importance of the sugar industry, which like other basic products, is part of the economy of many of our peoples.

We were quite pleased with the welcome afforded by Commander Ortega which, I reiterate, coincides with our position in this meeting.

Concerning the policy of Mr Reagan in relation to the Caribbean, I would like to mention that as far as sugar is concerned, as has already been ascertained in some analyses made here, such a policy actually contradicts the domestic policy being applied in the United States itself concerning sugar production.

We analyze this policy not be the effects it produces, but by its objectives. As was pointed out here yesterday during the opening ceremony of this event, this is a policy that tends to divide our countries. [end recording]

The protectionist policy of the developed countries seeks their own interest. However, they contradict themselves by invoking free trade. This statement was made by Ricardo Cabrizas, who noted that the 16th plenary meeting of GEPLACEA seeks to improve the economic. political and social relations of the international sugar trade for the sake of unity and peace within the commercial sector.

[Begin recording] In fact, this is the policy that has prevailed in the international market on the part of the developed countries. This policy contradicts the principles of free trade so often advocated by these same countries. It limits the aspirations of the Latin American countries to guarantee the growth of their economies. If we analyze the [words indistinct] and the protectionist policy applied to our products by the developed nations, which don't necessarity depend on sugar for the subsistence of their peoples and which have other resources to maintain constant development of their economies, we then realize the seriousness of the situation.

Besides, this protectionist policy to a great extent contributes to creating the present surpluses in the international sugar market, which are an important factor in the current situation of (?low) sugar prices. It also tends to protect the developed nations' domestic production and to encourage the production of sugar substitutes. [end recording]

CHILEAN, ARGENTINE DELEGATIONS DISCUSSING TREATY

PY282023 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Excerpts] The Chilean and Argentine delegations in the papal mediation have held an important meeting with the papal representative. One of the main activities was the discussion of a permanent friendship treaty between the two countries.

Complete details of this meeting are given by the chief of the Chilean delegation to the papal mediation, Ambassador Enrique Bernstein:

[Begin recording] The Chilean and Argentine delegations this morning held a joint meeting at the Vatican. We held this meeting in compliance with a suggestion the pope made in a speech on Friday in which he urged us to resume the joint meetings.

First we discussed the issue that the pope had noted was the most urgent one: The drafting of a permanent friendship treaty between Chile and Argentina that would include clauses on the peaceful solution of disputes, and complete rejection of the use of force and threats in keeping with the 12 December papal proposal.

We discussed this issue and we will continue to hold joint and separate meetings with Cardinal Samore tomorrow and the day after tomorrow. [end recording]

UK DECLARES COMPLETE AIR, NAVAL BLOCKADE

PY281138 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1126 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] London, 28 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- Great Britain today declared a complete air and maritime blockade around the Malvinas Islands as of 1100 GMT Friday, the Defense Ministry has announced.

SOURCES REPORT BRITISH SHIP BURNING AT PORT LEITH

PY281728 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1704 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Comodoro Rivadavia, 28 Apr (NA) -- A reliable source reported today that the pilot of an Argentine Hercules C-130 has sighted four destroyed British landing craft near Port Leith and dozens of dead bodies, apparently those of British Marines, judging by their uniforms. The source said that the bodies were on a beach near Port Leith. According to the source, the frigate Exeter was seen from the same plane, burning and aground near the same port in South Georgia.

Navy Chief Skeptical

LD282228 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Unidentified correspondent's report from Buenos Aires]

[Text] The commander in chief of the navy has denied -- has received with great reservations -- the report that the British missile destroyer Exeter has been sunk by the Argentine units that are still resisting on South Georgia Island. According to high-ranking sources, the Argentine forces operating on South Georgia do not have the necessary weapons to carry out such an operation.

Military Denies Knowledge

PY282154 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2125 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (TELAM) -- Military sources consulted here by TELAM denied having any information concerning the possible sinking of the missile frigate Exeter that is operating in the area around South Georgia. Throughout the day a report coming from abroad and intercepted by local sources told of serious damage done to the Exeter and its probable sinking. The sources consulted said they had no official information concerning that report.

NAVY REPORTS DEATH OF CORPORAL ON SOUTH GEORGIA

PY290346 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0323 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (NA) -- The navy has reported that a navy corporal belonging to the detachment of the submarine Santa Fe died during the British attack on the South Georgia. Through a communique which was released tonight at Government House, the navy identified the late soldier as Felix Oscar Artuso. The reason for his death and the place where he died have not been clarified.

Following is the text of the communique: "The navy headquarters regrets to report the death of Noncommissioned Officer Felix Oscar Artuso, who belonged to the detachment of the submarine Santa Fe.

"The circumstance and the place where he died have not been duly clarified by the British Government."

Previously, this afternoon, Hernan Massini Excurra, the spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, had officially announced that the Brazilian and Swiss Embassies had separately reported to San Martin Palace the death of an Argentine noncommissioned officer on South Georgia.

MILITARY WEAPONS IN SOUTH GEORGIA DESCRIBED

PY290618 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2145 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Rio Gallegos, 28 Apr (TELAM) -- The command post of Argentine resistance groups, headed by a marine commander, is operating somewhere close to Fortuna Bay, in the vicinity of Port Leith on San Pedro Island.

This report was released here today by reliable military sources who refused to give the name of the commander nor the number of soldiers under his command, although they reported that there are more than 100 soldiers specially trained to survive without outside support for at least 3 months and equipped with the most advanced and sophisticated arms for this kind of fight. The sources also reported that this group is perfectly able to inflict serious damage on British ships, given the firepower of their weapons.

According to the source, this is made possible by computer directed artillery fire -- made by the British themselves -- developed by the Marconi enterprise and the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment, which was purchased by the Argentine Navy in 1979. It consists of a three-element system for directing artillery fire: The first one is called FACE [Field Artillery Computer Equipment], which is a portable bag contining a computer; the second one is called ALICE, a portable communications apparatus for radial artillery line [linea de artilleria radial] which transmits the FACE data to the guns; the third one is called AWDATS [Artillery Weapon Data Transmission System], a data transmission system for artillery which programs the firing data in each gun individually.

According to the British manufacturers, this is the most advanced system in the world and it can compute for up to 24 arms in different positions, although in this case only 8 firing positions are used, one of them being used to shoot at the enemy ships.

High-ranking official has explained that the system is extremely simple and that each operation is programmed immediately and on the way. The computer controls each step until the operation is completed. All calculations for each firing position are done in seconds. By pressing a button the information is transmitted to the AWDATS display unit of each gun. Fire correction information from advanced observers can be rapidly fed to the face console and transmitted to the corresponding gun.

According to the source, the fire direction system reduces drastically the guns' response time while keeping surprise, all of which is raising serious difficulties and causing substantial damage to the British troops and their support ships.

The following weapons are also used in these operations: Soviet-made BM 21 122mm rockets; French-made AMX 195A self-propelled 105mm howitzers; and U.S.-made M109AL 155mm self-propelled howitzers. An L 109/I 20 105mm light cannon, purchased from Britain, together with other arms of smaller caliber, is also connected to the computer on the same firing line.

These special troops are made up of volunteers from the frogman commando groups who have been receiving arduous training for many years, even on those South Atlantic islands and even before the crisis with Chile toward the end of 1978. The military sources added that their capacity to survive in those regions and under those conditions can extend indefinitely given their high level of training.

NAVY OFFICER MINIMIZES LOSS OF SOUTH GEORGIA

PY280812 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 28 Apr 82 p 11

[Text] (NA) -- The loss of the South Georgia Islands was a calculated risk for the Argentine Armed Forces, according to a high-ranking naval officer who held a long conversation with a representative of the NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS news agency.

He said that an attempt to defend the enclave would have meant risking vessels which were being used for other purposes in the South Atlantic. On the other hand, the Argentine military strategists had discarded the possibility of the British making use of this archipelago as a base for an attack on the Malvinas.

The officer said one of the fundamental principles of strategy is to carry out a prolonged attack on one front and then suddenly change it to another. He stressed that this is what the British did when they announced their first objective would be the South Georgia Islands. This would be for the purpose of attracting to that position the greater number of Argentine forces, and in this manner incline the balance of power in favor of the British.

The Argentine military command foresaw this possibility and did not reinforce its defences on the Island of San Pedro. It forced the British to employ a greater degree of manpower than was justified for the recpature operation on Monday morning, the naval officer continued.

He said that the Argentine naval force which recaptured the island from the British on April 3, consisted of a corvette and a vessel used for operations in the Antarctic. The British used four vessels led by the destroyer "Exeter".

The analyst pointed out that the defenders consisted of between 40 and 50 men, plus the crew of the submarine "Santa Fe". The latter are not adequately trained for land defence operations. He went on to say that the British were forced to deploy a large part of their forces for this operation.

"From the viewpoint of the Argentine high command the British did not attain their objective of attracting Argentine vessels to this area (which would have given them a logistic advantage), but had to make use of a considerable human and logistic material to recapture a position which does not even serve the purpose of a base for air operations," he said.

The officer emphasized that Argentina had scored a strategical triumph as the British operation in South Georgia had prevented them from attempting to recover the Malvinas. This had to be delayed and allowed Argentina to strengthen its defences in the archipelago.

"Only now do the British dispose of the entire naval force which will eventually attempt any action in the Malvinas area," he said.

The naval expert was of the opinion that it is impossible to transform San Pedro Island into a base for naval or air operation. This is due to the fact the island has countless hills and this makes it hazardous to attempt to build a landing strip.

Another impediment, according to the informant, would be the high cost of transporting building material from the United Kingdom.

"The South Georgia Islands could be used to store fuel and provisions, but here again the expense of building appropriate warehouses or cisterns would be prohibitive. Only in the event of the struggle being prolonged would the Island of San Pedro be suitable as an advanced base.

"All these factors were no doubt properly examined by the high command, and this forecast there would be a skirmish over the islands, especially as it did not have adequate air cover," the officer said.

The naval expert also referred to reports that the British had carried out an amphibious operation to take over the island. He said there was no need to use frogmen in the operation since the island had no air coverage and air photographs taken by a helicopter crew would show the position of the Argentine defenders. In discarding reports of the amphibious operation the officer said the zone was not suited for this kind of attack, even by well-trained commando units.

The analyst refuted London reports extolling the activities of 12 British Commando's during the takeover and said the possibility of a landing by a unit from a nuclear submarine was out of the question.

"Any expert in this field is aware of the enormous difficulties (if not impossibility) of a submarine of this type approaching the coast near enough to allow a dozen spies to land. They could obtain all the information they required by less costly and risky means," he said.

Finally, the expert said the entire South Georgia operation was of psychological nature aimed at the military and civilian sectors in an effort to convince them that the same can happen in the Malvinas area.

COMMUNIQUE NO 35 ON FALKLANDS MILITARY ACTIONS

PY281354 Buenos Aires Radio Continental in Spanish 1333 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Report from Government House by (Susana Grassi)]

[Text] The military junta informs the nation that as a result of the position adopted by the British Government, it envisages the execution [preve la ejecucion] of military actions in the Malvinas area in the next 24 or 48 hours. However, in keeping with their traditional support for the peaceful solution of conflicts, the Government and people of Argentina, convinced of the legitimacy of their rights and of the just cause they are defending, continue to maintain unshaken their spirit of struggle and their faith in achieving final victory.

There is a clear awareness of the psychological action unleashed by the British invader, who is doing nothing but revealing his own shortcomings and weaknesses while strengthening our spirit and tempering our resolve to struggle.

The above was Communique No 35 released by the military junta. Furthermore, let us note that the public information secretary has said that the proposal President Reagan had sent to Argentine Government was being studied, that all diplomatic channels continue remain open.

COAST DEFENSES, MORALE READY FOR BRITISH THREAT

PY281530 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1458 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 38 Apr (TELAM) -- Reliable sources have reported here, without giving details, that the Argentine fleet continues to operate somewhere in the South Atlantic and that it is prepared to open fire whenever the circumstances demand it.

The Argentine Air Force is also in a state of alert and its fighting squadrons are prepared to act to support the Argentine fleet and the military garrisons stationed on Malvinas Islands.

As the British decision to establish an air exclusion zone at the Argentine archipelago as of tomorrow became known here, Argentine spokesmen said that the spirit and morale of the Agentine troops continue to increase.

Falklands Defense Strengthened

PY281614 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1530 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (TELAM) -- Navy sources stated today that this morning the coast defense units on the Malvinas Islands were on state of maximum alert and that the British fleet had still not entered the area within the range of the radars placed on the archipelago.

The orders for maximum alert were broadcast early this morning, while all the positions were reinforced and the last defense measures of the Malvinas Islands were adjusted, stated the sources. The sources stated that in the meantime the intensification of patrolling along the Malvinas Islands' Atlantic coastline was ordered as a preventive measure in case of an eventual landing of English Marines.

The sources pointed out that everything is calm for the time being. They also stated that (?communications) with the continent are being maintained normally. Military experts consider it extremely difficult that a landing operation, with the objective of recovering the control of the islands, be successful especially due to the bad weather conditions and the number of lives which this would represent in view of the great number of defenders who are provided with powerful and modern weapons. Experts have calculated that there around 10,000 Argentine soldiers on the Malvinas Islands which have an approximate surface of 12,000 square km.

More on Defenses

PY290127 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2305 GMT 28 Apr 82

[By Diego Perez Andrade]

[Text] Puerto Argentino, 28 Apr (TELAM) -- Military Governor of the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands Gen Mario Benjamin Menendez said here today that, since the British assault on South Georgia, an attack on the Malvinas could be launched at any time now. In line with that possibility, Puerto Argentino is giving signs that the situation is not the same as it was before yesterday. Life is going on at the normal pace, but there will be blackout drills as of 1800, beginning today.

The movement of troops throughout the port is unceasing, and all defense measures against air raids have already been taken. The possibility of British air attacks is being anticipated here as something imminent that could take place in the next few hours.

Regarding the question of passive air defense, today we contacted Air Force Col Blaamer Reeve, secretary general of the governorship, who told us that provisions have been taken to reinforce the professional staff at the local hospital which was known by the name of King George Hospital before. In addition to two British lady physicians who worked there, three Argentine physicians are there now. Everything has been taken into account to ensure medical assistance to the civilian population, and the military personnel will be assisted in other facilities. The physicians will be accompanied by military policemen as they retire to their residence, or as they respond to service calls.

Supplies have been stockpiled for the permanent residents of Puerto Argentino. The day before yesterday 400 sheep -- enough for one and one half months consumption of the population -- were slaughtered, and another 400 will be slaughtered tomorrow. Everything is under control and no shortages are expected.

To have an idea of the number of people residing here, the local authorities ordered that a census be taken this past weekend. Of a total of 900 inhabitants, only 70 percent are staying here; the rest have either left the island or gone to farms in the archipelago's hinterland. The census revealed that there are 60 children of school age, a rather surprising figure since a large percentage of grownups and old people make up the population's total.

Regarding food supply, the authorities have also contacted the manager of the Falkland Island Company (FIC) to have him take stock of canned food to see if there is enough. If there is not enough, and so far nothing indicates that there is not, Argentine supplies will be provided to make up for any shortage.

At the military positions around the archipelago everything is ready and developments are being awaited. The civilian aspects of possible developments have also been studied down to the least details.

Falklands Blockade Evaded

PY281740 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1719 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (NA) -- The cargo ship Rio Carcarana evaded the British naval blockade today and arrived at Puerto Argentino in the Malvinas Islands. The report was given by reliable sources in this city without indicating the mission of the ship.

Weather Suspends Airlift

PY281518 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1502 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Rio Gallegos, 28 Apr (TELAM) -- The airlift between this city and the Malvinas Islands has been temporarily suspended due to the weather conditions in the South Atlantic. The last flights transporting supplies to the islands were made yesterday afternoon. The improvement of the weather conditions is awaited in order to continue with that task.

BRAZIL, VENEZUELA PLAN TO HARASS BRITISH FLEET

PY290746 Buenos Aires Radio Rivadavia in Spanish 0725 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] A high official of the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry has revealed a joint plan for the intervention of Brazilian and Venezuelan naval ships in support of Argentina in the Malvinas conflict. According to the report -- picked up by foreign correspondents -- the plan is aimed at intercepting British ships to obstruct their passage toward the South Atlantic and their resupply within the zone established by the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR. The project is reportedly linked to the Venezuelan plan for recovering its sovereignty over Guyana, an issue which has mobilized the public opinion of that country in the last few days.

REPORTAGE ON GOVERNMENT NEWS MANAGEMENT

Communique No 36

PY290006 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2220 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (TELAM) -- The military junta informs the people of the nation that the United Kingdom is at this time launching a strong psychological aggression aimed at undermining the resistance of all Argentines. This aggression is carried out by spreading disinformation and misinformation suitable to that objective. Consequently, the citizenry is hereby exhorted to stay alert against this type of British aggression.

In order to keep the population duly informed, news will daily be made public through an authorized spokesman, or through the military junta if circumstances so require. The volume and content of the information will reflect the real existence of available news that has been duly scrutinized to avoid innacuracy and not to create false expectations. Furthermore, the population must rest assured that if no information is made public the reason is that there is no important news to be released, and so the lack of information should cause no alarm. In other words, this procedure is meant to show that the handling of information is being taken seriously and responsibly.

Military News Restricted

PY280935 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2345 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Text] Rio Gallegos, 27 Apr (TELAM) -- The command of Subzone 54, which is the responsibility of the 11th Mechanized Infantry Brigade, tonight issued a communique in which it reiterates that no information on the activities or operations taking place in its jurisdiction will be disseminated. It recalls that Article 222 of the National Penal Code and Articles 634 and 637 of the Code of Military Justice are in effect.

It also exhorts all the information media to be objective and truthful, carefully analyzing the origin of information and how it was obtained in order to not be trapped into errors which can distort the real prevailing situation. Finally, the communique advises all Argentine information media from outside the jurisdiction to immediately register their presence with the secretary general of the province.

Ham Operations Suspended

PY282208 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] It is reported from the Communications Under Secretariat that ham radio operations were today suspended throughout the country. Excepted from this measure are those ham radio operators who are part of the armed forces communication system and of the national emergency ham radio network which is subordinate to the Communications Under Secretariat, all of whom will continue to carry out those activities which will be specifically assigned to them.

The measure was taken in the wake of the special circumstances which are already known by the public, and they are designed to preserve the necessary calm throughout the wave lengths and not to interfere with the hookups that might be necessary in case of an emergency.

ECONOMY MINISTER SEEKS BANKERS' SUPPORT

PY281746 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1555 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (NA) -- Economy Minister Roberto Alemann today requested the support of the country's leading banks to stabilize the market and to avoid the adoption of measures which would restrict operations in the financial system. Alemann made this exhortation at a meeting he held with a group of leading local bankers whom he asked to help "finance military spendings" by making contributions to the Argentine Malvinas Patriotic Fund, private banking sources reported today.

At a meeting held last night at the finance palace, Alemann listened to the fears expressed by the bankers over the effects which high interest rates and the continual withdrawal of funds by depositors will have on the system. Although the meeting was ultrasecret, some passages of the conversation were leaked today in Buenos Aires banking circles. The invitation to the bankers was extended by Alemann himself to brief them on the economic situation and on the effects the military conflict in the South Atlantic islands is having on the economy.

The minister reiterated that until now there are no plans to adopt any exceptional measure which would restrict the free operation of the financial system. To avoid exceptional measures, Alemann asked for the support of the leading banks to the effect of bringing temporary stability to the market to prevent the uneasiness prevailing among banks from forcing the government into adopting measures of control.

The meeting was attended by the heads of some of the banks gathered under the Argentine Bank Association (ADEBA] and the Association of Banks of the Republic of Argentina (ABRA) who, despite vowing to cooperate, noted that many of the causes of the present situation cannot be controlled by their institutions. In this respect some of the bankers expressed the need to strengthen their institutions by authorizing rediscounts at a lower cost to prevent the shortage of funds from steadily pushing interest rates upwards.

Many of those in attendance agreed on stating that despite the higher cost of money, depositors continue to withdraw their money from the banks, thus bringing further complications to the economic situation of these institutions. The bankers noted that although the drop in deposits decreased in recent days, they made it clear that their deposits in dollars were completely gone due to the lack of confidence prevailing among investors.

Withdrawals Decrease

PY290852 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 Apr 82 p 13

[Excerpt] The unusual activity yesterday was the low number of funds withdrawn from finance companies in contrast with the large withdrawn from finance companies in contrast with the large withdrawals observed in prior days. The regard to the levels of interest rates, very few changes were observed as the rates stayed the same as in prior days.

There were also no changes in the U.S. dollar exchange rate. The day's business activities in the financial circuit closed in great tranquility, but at the same time there was some "nervousness" as a result of the possibilities of a "readjustment" of the exchange rate due to the particular situation being experienced in the country, a situation which has been worsened by the military conflict with Great Britain.

International Credit Tightens

PY280800 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 27 Apr 82 p 11

[Text] (NA) -- Argentina's conflict with Great Britain may affect its ability to pay off its foreign debts, an eventuality United States banking circles consider "worrisome."

A U.S. banking source yesterday said the United States has "substantial financial interests in Argentina," and, for now, will maintain a "cautious" attitude.

United States banks have refused to extend long term credit to Argentina during the current crisis, granting instead 60 and 90-day loans.

This step, the source explained "was taken because the American banking industry did not want to aggravate the critical situation existent between two business partners: Great Britain and Argentina. The (U.S.) banks understand that the best thing for this kind of problem is not to talk, because an opinion might upset the whole situation."

The source denied that U.S. banks have received "any instructions from the Reagan government", with respect to their dealings in Argentina, but that "European" banks have received orders from their respective governments which will probably lead to stricter payment schedules for their Argentine debtors.

OFFICIAL TO COMPLAIN AGAINST EEC TO GATT

PY290622 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0220 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (TELAM) -- Alfredo Esposito, under secretary of international commercial relations, is going to present to the GATT council, during the first days in May, the Argentine position in view of the economic aggression by the EEC.

Esposito is going to travel to Geneva, Switzerland, at the beginning of May to attend a meeting of the GATT group of the 18 at almost the same time that Economy Minister Roberto Alemann will attend a technical meeting of the IMF in Helsinki, Finland.

According to a report from the Commerce Secretariat, Esposito will have an opportunity to explain the country's position, both in the meeting of the 18 as well as before the GATT Council, in view of the measures of economic aggression being carried out by the EEC. The official is also going to discuss the meeting whether the GATT is the appropriate organization for maintaining the highest possible degree of freedom of international exchange and as an instrument for preventing the adoption of measures aimed at hurting a country like Argentina which is a member of the organization.

IMPORT PERMITS ISSUED TO DATE CANCELLED

PY290303 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2122 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (TELEM) -- The Commerce Secretariat has cancelled all import permits that have been issued to date to be able to control the future of imports. The resolution was announced by the head of that secretariat, Alberto de las Carreras, who said: "This is a precautionary measure to prevent expectations of future devaluations from anticipating payments for future imports."

TRADE BALANCE SURPLUS IN FIRST QUARTER REPORTED

PY290313 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0013 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Apr (NA) -- The Commerce Secretariat has officially announced that the Argentine trade balance over this year's first quarter closed with a $687 million surplus. The information was released through the Economy Ministry.

CGT SUPPORTS NATIONAL CAUSE, NOT GOVERNMENT

PY290250 Santiago Chile COSAS in Spanish 22 Apr 82 p 16-17

["Exclusive" interview with CGT [General Labor Confederation] Secretary General Saul Ubaldini by Elizabeth Subercaseaux -- undated]

[Excerpts] [Question] Once the Malvinas issue is solved what will happen with the domestic situation which in the past few weeks has been in a so-called recess?

[Answer] Whatever may happen regarding the Malvinas issue, we shall not yield in our determination to restore the state of law in the country, since we know that it is the only way we can live in democracy. Although our flag has been and will continue to be the same -- during and after the Malvinas issue -- we cannot achieve a socioeconomic solution if there is no political solution. And we have no political solution. The government is aware -- this. It saw the power of the CGT before the recovery of the Malvinas, when we were able to gather thousands of persons at the Plaza de Mayo, and also after the recovery of the Malvinas, when we were able to gather thousands of persons at the Plaza de Mayo. Therefore, it is obvious that our position does not change because of the Malvinas issue. Once the foreign policy problem is solved we want solutions on the domestic front.

[Question] How are you going to request these changes?

[Answer] We shall not request them, we shall demand them. All of those Argentines who were at the Plaza de Mayo on 10 April are going to remind Mr Galtieri of the things we shouted on that day. And if it is necessary we shall again call on our people to gather at the Plaza de Mayo. I would like to make it quite clear that the war is one thing and our domestic situation is a completely different one. I would also like to note that the main problem is that we are experiencing the results of a disastrous economic policy that has been bleeding the people and leading the country to ruin. Of course we are aware that the cost of the war is very high. It is another excessive cost that is undermining the already chaotic situation we are experiencing. But the country will not go bankrupt because of the Malvinas Islands. The country is already bankrupt...

[Question] How do you explain the fact that you were at the Plaza de Mayo supporting the same government that had put you in jail?

[Answer] Yes, that is true. We called on the people to support the defense of our sovereignty on the Malvinas Islands. But we did not support only the defense of our sovereignty, not at all. We were at the Plaza de Mayo as the CGT and we shouted for Argentina, for Peron, for peace and for justice... The first time we did this we were harassed, we were jailed and beaten. The second time we were applauded. But we were the same people, we were at the same place and we did the same things we had done previously.

[Question] And was it not denigrating to be applauded by the same people who a few days before had run you down and put you in jail?

[Answer] It would have been if we had not shouted the same things we had shouted previously.

[Question] It has been said that the objective of the actions the government has undertaken on the Malvinas Islands is to divert the attention of the people from their domestic problems, rather than an aspiration to recover lost territories. What is your view in this regard?

[Answer] I can only say that we did not make this decision. The government is responsible. I have no idea why it chose to make this decision at this time. The people have not been told anything although they are directly affected by this issue.

[Question] Do you think Galtieri's popularity will be affected by this conflict?

[Answer] Galtieri's popularity? What popularity are you talking about? More than 80 percent of the people are against him.

[Question] Do you believe that Galtieri's government will be strengthened if the Malvinas Islands remain under Argentine sovereignty?

[Answer] No, I do not think so. The fatherland will be strengthened. It is quite clear to us that the fatherland is one thing and the present government another. The fatherland is forever, governments are not.

Our actions are in keeping with national interests, not with those of the government. And this is so because the present government has been unable to solve the great and serious problems that Argentina is experiencing. But I want to make it quite clear that the fatherland is above and beyond everything.

[Question] The Argentine Government saw that the CGT was at the Plaza de Mayo rally when the fatherland needed its support. The government must be aware of the CGT's power. What do you think will be the military junta's attitude toward the CGT once the Malvinas conflict is over?

[Answer] Let me explain one thing. This government declared that the CGT illegal. However, the people have shown the government that despite being illegal the CGT was going to continue its activities, that it was a legitimate movement. Whether or not the government accepts this authenticity, the CGT has achieved it because Argentine workers have given their support by complying with those measures issued by the CGT. In both rallies, the president heard first the shouts in support of the CGT and then for the Malvinas. And I know he heard them because it was a deafening shout issued by the 300,000 people who were gathered there. They were there because of the CGT. He knows we are there and that is what is important.

MULTIPARTY GROUP WITHHOLDS GOVERNMENT CRITICISM

PY281852 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 28 Apr 82 p 11

[By Megan O'Reilly]

[Text] The Multiparty Grouping, representing Argentina's five most important political parties, last night suspended the publication of a critical policy paper on the government's handling of Argentina's domestic and international problems.

"We are at war and we want to win," said Carlos Contin, president of the Radical Party. "Now is not the time to be discussing domestic problems. We need to be supportive and united behind the armed forces."

A steering committee, composed of three members each from the Radical, Peronist, Christian Democrat, Intransigent and Movement for Integration and Development parties, has spent several weeks drafting the policy statement which was widely expected to call for a "coalition government" with civilian participation and a change in economic policies and the ban on politics.

However, the politicians last night refused to reveal the contents or even a rough outline of the statement.

Former Radical Senator Luis Leon explained: "The situation and events are changing day by day and we're just trying to keep on top of the situation. We're still working on the statement and, perhaps, by Thursday we'll have something prepared."

Contin, in an interview with the HERALD, spoke about the parties' isolation from government decision-making.

"This is a military dictatorship, but there is a minimum, elemental respect from the government," he said. "Political parties can't meet legally but the facts move faster than absurd decrees. The government has promised to lift the ban on politics by June 30 and I have no reason to doubt that they will."

Asked if he is satisfied with the flow of information on the Malvinas crisis between the government and party leaders, Contin said: "I wouldn't say satisfied, but the telephone lines haven't been cut. We're in touch and we are completely behind the government in this operation."

Contin, who has been leader of his party for less than one year, refused to comment on domestic issues, but spoke at length about the United States' role in the crisis.

"I can't believe the United States," Contin said. "I hope they side with Latin America at the OAS (Organization of American States) because a divorce from us would mean a backwards step for democratic countries around the world.

"If they only knew what they are going to lose in Latin America. Argentina has always looked to the West, not to the Soviet Union, but now we don't know where to turn. It's ridiculous," he said.

Three women from the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo Human Rights organization were turned away from last night's meeting, where they had hoped to remind politicians of the plight of missing persons.

"They told us that they are busy working on the policy statement and that now was not the time to discuss local political problems," one mother said.

The mothers said they were disappointed, but added that they intend to keep up pressure on the parties to include human rights issues in future party platforms.

TELAM CITES MOSCOW WARNING TO GREAT BRITAIN

PY290733 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0215 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 28 Apr (TELAM-TANJUG) -- The Soviet Union harshly warned Great Britain today that it will not tolerate interference in its maritime trade in waters of the South Atlantic, and that any military adventure of the United Kingdom against Soviet units on the high seas will lead the conflict rapidly to international levels.

In a strong reaction through TASS today, the Soviet Government refers to the announced British blockade of the Malvinas Islands, indicating that Margaret Thatcher's government is engaged in publicizing journalistically a military campaign against Argentina in order to settle the serious domestic political crisis of Great Britain.

TASS also accused the United Kingdom of trying, with the alleged support of the United States, to take advantage of the development of the Malvinas conflict with Argentina to upset the free trade among nations and to violate the right of the countries to navigate peacefully through international waters.

The British Defense Ministry (?reportedly) stated today that it will detect and will sink Soviet ships spying on the movement of the naval fleet units in the theater of the Malvinas crisis beginning 1100 GMT on Friday. The Soviet Union reacted against the British blockade threats and indicated that London is getting ready to carry on indefinitely its militaristic and colonialist policy against Argentina, with the aid of the U.S. Government.

TASS added that this aspect of the matter speaks clearly of the serious problems that Mrs Thatcher's government will have to face in the domestic political sphere.

The newspaper PRAVDA also stated today that the British have decided to reject systematically any peaceful solution to the conflict with Argentina over the possession of the Malvinas Islands, and have demonstrated once again their century-old disdain for diplomatic proceedings and their preference for the use of instruments of pressure, blackmail and military force.

The Moscow communications media in general warned Great Britain about the serious consequences of a military blockade against Argentine territory and against the routes of normal development of internatinal trade in the South Atlantic. They also indicated that the threatening and powerful Soviet fleet observes and will observe attentively the naked, warlike display by the colonialist British in the South Atlantic waters.

Radio Moscow repudiated the British intention to blockade the Malvinas Islands as an indication that the militaristic UK politicians do not imagine the high cost they will have to pay for their belligerant position in the Malvinas conflict.

PAPER WARNS AGAINST SOVIET INTERFERENCE IN CRISIS

PY281256 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 Apr 82 Sect 2 p 1

[Editorial: "The Soviet Presence"]

[Text] Ever since Argentina recovered the Malvinas as part of its national patrimony, the Soviet Union has been hovering about the serious conflict created with Great Britain. Although the evidence has not been conclusive, information from a reliable source indicates that units belonging to the Soviet fleet were navigating in the area near the South Atlantic, and that Soviet planes flew over the aircraft carrier "Invincible" shortly after it began its trip, along with other ships of the British Navy, to the Malvinas zone. But apart from this information, it is evident that the Soviet Government has been closely following the events concerning the conflict since 2 April. Statements by some spokesmen from the Kremlin and commentaries in the official newspaper PRAVDA leave no doubt about the increasing eargerness of the Soviet regime to become involved in this issue.

Such a pretention should cause no surprise. Since the end of World War II there has been no single major incident, diplomatic, military or political, in which the Soviet Union has not demonstrated eagerness to intervene in some way. In the cases of Hungary (1956), Czechoslovakia (1968) and Poland (1981/82), it did so without reserve, arguing that its immediate territorial interests were affected, to the point of drawing up the Brezhnev doctrine of "limited sovereignty" after the "Prague Spring" episodes. It has also intervened in events outside the European continent, such as in Southeast Asia, the Mideast, and the Persian Gulf.

They occupied Afghanistan (December 1979) with 85,000 Russian soldiers, and were involved in the conquests of Angola and Mozambique, among other conflicts of which our readers are already aware. The most widespread and persistent of them all are urban terrorism and rural guerrilla warfare all over the world, through the supply of arms and money, ideological propaganda and the training of soldiers.

Meanwhile, the power of the Soviet fleet has grown at a rapid rate. Nobody with efficient knowledge would now dare deny that the communist navy is the first in the world today, or at least very close to first.

In view of the background and these circumstances, the Soviet presence on the edges of the Malvinas conflict seems natural. We could even say tht it is explicable and could even have been foreseen. The Soviet pretension of interfering in this matter not only relies on its military power, but also relies politically on its much talked about stand as an "anticolonial" country, by virtue of which it would pretend to participate in the Argentine position. It has already made this same argument in the "liberation" wars in Asia and Africa, an artifice by which it incorporated former European colonies among its feudal states. The facts are there for all to see. The old imperial metropolis has changed its name and its place on the world map.

In the specific case of the Malvinas Islands, what has just happened will undoubtedly be used to the advantage of the Soviet Union, especially if the conflict is not solved peacefully. Its pretension of being the champion of "anti-imperialism" and "anti-colonialism" has not always failed, as it should have. The Soviet Union's vast propaganda resources, its agents in all strata of Western society and, above all, its well paid "quislings" in political and union circles, in addition to its "fellow travelers" always ready to believe the stories made up by Moscow experts, are all at the service of their deceit.

The commercial links between Moscow and Buenos Aires, with a substantial surplus in our favor, may be invoked in order to come to the "defense of a situation" which could deteriorate or cease to exist if there is a blockade by the British Navy, or a war. If they can manage to join in the conflict, the Soviets will probably not hesitate to send their ships, which continue to navigate near the conflict area, to the blockade zone.

So, we have to keep the Soviet Union in line. We should not add yet another disturbing factor to an already delicate situation by failing to evaluate duly and in advance the tragic consequences which would be brought about by Soviet intervention in the Malvinas Islands conflict.

LA PRENSA SEES UK REACTION ANACHRONISTIC

PY290747 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 7 Apr 82 Section 2 p 1

[Editorial: "A Unique Expedition"]

[Text] As Great Britain's war fleet headed for the Malvinas becomes a reality, the lack of all reasonable relationship between the goal sought by the rights it invokes and the projected cost and possible results of the expedition draws even more attention. Everything about the situation evokes a sense of unreality, of a scene recalled from the past in a "time tunnel" story. It reveals an inconceivable lack of political astuteness, in the truest sense of the expression, among statesmen of the great powers which have permitted a confrontation such as the one now foreseen.

Warships, nuclear powered submarines, aircraft carriers with helicopters, troop transports, oil tankers, have all hurriedly come together 14,000 kilometers away from their stations, in order that the British flag may again wave on an island with 1,400 subjects. The great majority of these people live there only temporarily under contract, mainly to watch over a few thousand head of sheep. They intend to reinstate their illegal occupation of almost 150 years, an occupation which began with an act of international piracy.

The clamoring members of the House of Commons have suddenly returned to the Victorian age when their country "ruled the waves" and its fleet imposed "British law" on all the seas in order to safeguard an empire which spread all over the world and ruled over millions of subjects of every race, language, religion and culture. Those were the days when a foreign minister like Lord Palmerston would send the fleet to Greece so that King Othon would compensate a subject born in Gibraltar with thousands of pounds sterling for a bed which a crowd in Athens had damaged. But the times in which we now live are very different. Now, only the stories of past glory told by Kipling or Tennyson's poem about an absurd and valiant cavalry charge during the Crimean War, remain of the empire. The war fleet, brought together with great difficulty, will cross the oceans to operate far from its station to fight in a battle which, even if favorably to them, would have only slight results. Even if the invading force were to be in some measure successful -- something that will not happen -- the Malvinas Islands would later be recovered by our country as many times as necessary, because the will of generations has decided this should be so.

But let it not be said that Great Britain always proceeds in this manner by virtue of some exquisite and sublime sense of national honor. For example, only a few years ago it allowed its embassy in Beijing be destroyed and its diplomats harrassed during the Chinese Cultural Revolution without relations even being broken, because this would not have been convenient to its commercial interests. Neither let it be said that its unchanging conduct with regard to its subjects is like this, because not very long ago it did not hesitate to abandon 200,000 of them in Rhodesia, surrounded and threatened by native Africans.

It will soon be 400 years since an armada which considered itself invincible, to the point that this was the title given the report, left Spain on another unique expidition to conquer other islands -- the British Islands to be exact. The immense power that the Armada showed, which seemed incomparable at the time, was annihilated not by its enemy, but by the elements, as Catholic King Philip II had to admit. That happened because the ideas which led to the king's actions were inspired by flagrant ignorance of circumstances and available resources and, above all, because they contradicted the fundamental values which then prevailed over the evolution of nations. Curiously, it seems that the lead ship of the fleet which is now coming against our country is called Invincible, a fact which emphasizes the analogy with the incident of the Spanish failure.

We are nearing the end of the twentieth century, the same century in which man reached the moon, discovered atomic fission and is overcoming his intellectual limitations through the use of computers. That Great Britain should now be ready to pay any price for what could be considered its last colony, to again take away what is ours, to add to the economic difficulties it has had in preserving the islands despite our help, is like dreaming of an empire that no longer exists, or lost power. We must say that Mrs Thatcher is not Lord Palmerston, nor does Great Britain rule the waves. In fact, this passionate British head of state needed to ask President Reagan and Comrade Brezhnev for permission for the fleet to sail.

U.S. CRITICIZED FOR NOT SIDING WITH OAS

PY282005 Buenos Aires International Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Station commentary: "A Strange Attitude on the Part of the United States"]

[Text] After the overwhelming support given by almost all countries of the American Continent to Argentina in the early hours of this morning, the most important Western power preferred -- as evidenced by its abstention when the vote was taken -- to give its support to a strong and circumstantial European ally, thus ignoring documents by which it is committed to join forces with all other countries of the American Continent. Thus the United States is faced by a dilemma like others that continuingly crop up in what we would call a game of alliances and loyalties. In spite of a long experience gained during many long years of action as a leading power, the United States does not seem recently to be able to make the right decision. As a result, instead of preventing the outbreak of conflicts in different areas on this planet, it is going the opposite way with its misguised action.

Only 2 years ago, the weak support given by the government of James Carter to what was considered at the time its most cherished ally in the already instable Middle East, gave rise to the initiation of a revolutionary movement which constituted a serious threat to world peace. At that time, the alliance was not strong enough to uphold a feeling of loyalty. Today in turn, the loyalty of the Reagan government towards the Conservative government of Margaret Thatcher has made the United States ignore completely the documents it signed in 1947. This attitude, the reversal of which could have put a break on the colonial and belligerent aspirations of the British prime minister's party, has actually increased the possibility of an outbreak of an absurd war.

Within a few hours, should the British authorities not change their present attitude, Western powers will be fighting one another. The real fear existing a month ago, that is a logical fear of a confrontation of philosophies of different life styles and between countries of totalitarian and democratic tendencies, is now considered of minor importance, due to the prevalence of an absurd aspiration that could have retraced our steps in the course of history.

England is mistaken in its desire to reestablish the value of principles which led to its success in the course of [word indistinct] century of exploitation and extortion. And the Western countries that are supporting England are likewise mistaken.

This morning in the OAS, the Latin American countries did not want to give their support to the colonial practices which affected them adversedly a century ago. They acted in accordance with the cause of contemporary history. May the whole world really understand the significance of the attitude adopted by them. The votes were cast for the preservation of peace and against an outdated history, while endeavoring not to dissipate the efforts being directed towards the furtherance of the Western policy to combat imperialism in all fields.

The pro-American vocation of our peoples, inspired by the noble deeds of Generals San Martin and Bolivar became evident in the early hours of this morning, with only four exceptions which we hope do not represent a definite mistake in the chapter of Western history.

CHILEAN OFFICER ARRESTED FOR ESPIONAGE

PY281545 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1510 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] A report from San Juan, carried by the SAPORITI news agency, states that a member of the Chilean armed forces had allegedly been arrested by local authorities after having been caught carrying out espionage activities in our country. This information was disclosed to the daily EL CUYO by reliable sources.

At first the individual visited San Juan for tourism purposes and took many photographs of the main Argentine military strategic facilities and then went to San Luis for the same purpose.

He was arrested in Villa Mercedes and, for jurisdiction reasons, was sent to San Juan where the local court ordered the opening of the trial against him and then arrested him. It is possible that the federal court will release official information on this issue in the next few hours.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL IN 'PERMANENT SESSION'

PY200425 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2304 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] La Paz, 28 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Bolivian National Security Council has declared itself in permanent session to evaluate the situation in the South Atlantic due the Argentine-British dispute over the Malvinas. This report was released today by the secretary of press and information, Mario Maranon, after a lengthy meeting of the cabinet. The official spokesman stated that the council will be charged with making recommendations to the government over the Malvinas crisis.

PRESIDENT REITERATES SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINA

PY281434 La Paz Radio Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] On his return from Cochabamba, the chief of state, Gen Celso Torrelio Villa, stated to Panamericana that the government will spare no efforts to eradicate drug trafficking and the immorality that is rife in the country. The president pointed out that these two problems seriously disgrace the nation's image now more than ever. In this regard Gen Celso Torrelio Villa stated:

[Begin recording] During this visit I made to Cochabamba, I received a report on the operations, which are of public knowledge, aimed at the country's moralization, that is, the open struggle we are carrying out against drug trafficking, which has done so much harm to our people. I have committed myself to cleaning up the image of the institution and of the Bolivian people, and this is what I am doing now through these operations being carried out by the three forces, that is, the Bolivian Army, Navy and Air Force. It is also public knowledge that a great number of illegal cocaine factories have been destroyed. [end recording]

Further on, the president reiterated his support for the Argentine Government and people in the conflict that neighboring country has with Great Britain over the Malvinas. This support, above all, is due to the fact that Bolivia is a member of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty.

FORMER PRESIDENT PROPOSES TRANSITION GOVERNMENT

PY281702 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Lima -- Former Bolivian President Lidia Gueiler, proposed the establishment of a transition government in Bolivia, with the participation of all political and military forces and mass and military organizations. In a press conference, Lidia Gueiler said a general and unrestricted amnesty is the only means to reach a dialogue to discuss how to develop the democratic process in Bolivia. She made these statements referring to the (?amnesty) announced by the military government.

The former Bolivian president stated that they had agreed to demand and support what the entire Bolivian people demand: a general and unrestricted amnesty as a means for a dialogue to discuss how to develop the democratic process. She explained that the transition government should be the result of the consensus and unity of all the political parties with mass and military representatives who are aware that the democratic process is the means to save the country. Gueiler stated that this government should be a civilian-military government because all sectors must be represented, but made it clear that it would have to be with military officers who have not been responsible for the interruption of democracy.

PRESIDENT SATISFIED AT OAS ARGENTINA RESOLUTION

PY281803 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1639 28 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 28 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- President Joao Figueiredo today voiced his government's satisfaction at the important contribution to peace issued in Washington by the Inter-American consultative body. During a telephone conversation with Radio Nacional in this capital, the chief of state said we should all congratulate ourselves because an important contribution to a peaceful solution to the crisis in the South Atlantic has been made.

General Figueiredo is in Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul State, where he was informed by the Foreign Ministry of the pronouncement of the foreign ministers meeting in the U.S. capital. When he was asked about the Brazilian contribution to the inter-American pronouncement -- which the radio termed a success for Brazilian diplomacy -- General Figueiedo stated: Brazil will be present whenever an effort is being made to prevent two friendly nations such as Argentina and Great Britain from going to the extreme of a confrontation.

The inter-American resolution today called on Great Britain to cease hostilities immediately and on Argentina to refrain from any act that may exacerbate the conflict over the Malvinas. We have confidence in Britain's good judgment. The British always think things over carefully, stated Figueiredo.

REPORTER CHARGES MISTREATMENT IN ARGENTINA

PY280916 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2208 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Text] Sao Paulo, 27 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- A Brazilian reporter sent to Argentina to report on the Malvinas crisis said today he was arrested and kept blindfolded for 16 hours by two men who said they were police officers. Rodrigo Lara Mesquita, the son of a tycoon of the Brazilian press, told the JORNAL DA TARDE of Sao Paulo that he was taken out of his hotel in Ushuaia, on Tierra del Fuego, last Friday, handcuffed, blindfolded and taken away in an automobile.

Mesquita said the two men, who said they were policemen, interrogated him about his activities in southern Argentina and threatened to kill him. They abandoned him in a forest near Ushuaia the following afternoon. Mequita returned to Buenos Aires and spent Sunday in the Brazilian Embassy before returning to Sao Paulo last night. His father, Rui Mesquita, is co-owner of JORNAL DA TARDE and O ESTADO.

SALES OF BANDEIRANTE PLANES TO ARGENTINA OKAYED

PY290938 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 28 Apr 28 p 12

[Text] Brasilia -- The aeronautics minister has authorized the sale of two Bandeirante maritime patrol planes (EMB-111) by the Brazilian Aeronautics Company [EMBRAER] to the Argentine Air Force in view of the interest expressed in that type of plane by that neighboring country. This was announced by Brig Delio Jardim de Mattos yesterday afternoon on leaving his office.

Asked about the need for Brazil to reinforce its military power, especially after the incident in the southern cone, the minister stated that the conflict does not affect the Brazilian armed forces, and voiced assurances that the Brazilian Air Force "is appropriately equipped for the South American situation." In his opinion, there is a balance of military forces on the continent.

Does that mean that despite the current situation in the South Atlantic there is no need for Brazil to reinforce its military power, a reporter asked. A country can only be powerful militarily when it is economically rich, the minister answered, and added that Brazil has taken one option: We always felt that we ought to be powerful. We are making the maximum effort to achieve the maximum development with the minimum of security expenditures.

NETO SECURES $446.3 MILLION LOAN IN FRANCE

PY290228 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Apr 82 p 30

[Text] Paris -- Brazilian Planning Minister Delfim Neto yesterday presided over the signing ceremonies of two loan contracts totaling $446.3 million at the Brazilian Embassy in Paris. The first ceremony was attended by Jose Costa Cavalvanti, president of the Brazilian Electric Power Companies Inc; Luis Mascimento e Silva, Brazilian ambassador to France, and by Sergio Frazao, Brazilian ambassador to UNESCO.

A consortium of banks led by "BNP" will finance construction of the Samuel hydroelectric project in Rondonia by the Northern Electric Power Plants [ELETRONORTE]. The French banks granted two credits to ELECTRONORTE. The first is a $44.3 million credit for the purchase of French equipment guaranteed by COFACE, and the second is a loan totaling $125 million.

The second ceremony was held a few minutes later and was attended by representatives of the Credit Commercial de France, "BNP," and "BUE," which will grant a $177 million loan to the National Merchant Marine Superintendency [SUNAMAN] for the purchase of four petrochemical ships, and another $165-million [all figures as published] loan to enable SUNAMAN to finance the Brazilian shipbuilding program. Interest rates will be 7.75 percent for commercial credit and 3.5 percent for loans, rates considered "exceptional" by Minister Neto, who also hailed the 2-year period granted for amortization of the loans.

BRIEFS

EMPLOYMENT FIGURES -- Sao Paulo -- One the six Brazilian workers is underemployed, a government report has shown. The report by the Labor Ministry showed that 7 million of the country's 43.8 million work force did not have a full job, while another 3 million were completely out of work. The total of 10 million unemployed or underemployed represented 23 percent of the labor force and 8.3 percent of the country's 120 million total population. The ministry report said that the country's current population growth was throwing another 1.3 million workers onto the labor market each year and that to provide for them and to gradually mop up the existing underemployment Brazil must create around 1.8 million new jobs each year. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 27 Apr 82 p 5 PY]

MINISTRY DENIES RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA COOL

PA282309 Paris AFP in Spanish 1613 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Bogota, 28 Apr (AFP) -- Colombia today discounted a cooling or deterioration of relations with Argentina as a result of the confrontation between the two countries at the OAS on the application of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance in the Malvinas conflict. The Foreign Ministry today said "our relations with the Argentine Government continue to be excellent" and noted that "there is no cooling or deterioration on our part."

"Colombia has adopted a legal position which to us appears to be the most sensible and calm; the only logical position under the present circumstances," the Foreign Ministry spokesman told AFP. "We do not believe Colombia's conduct, based on an absolutely impartial criterion on the conflict and founded on legal reasoning, which so far nobody has challenged, can lead to a deterioration of these relations," he explained. "For our part, we want to maintain the best relations with the Republic of Argentina. We have declared that we recognize its desire for sovereignty over the Malvinas, but we can never agree with the act of force against these territories," the spokesman added.

Argentine 'Respect'

PA290245 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Bogota -- The Argentine Government today accepted with respect Colombia's abstention at the conference of foreign ministers on the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty and said at the same time that Argentina's objective was fully achieved, since it obtained full solidarity from the Latin American peoples in its dispute with Great Britain over the Malvinas. (Raul Medina Munoz), Argentine ambassador to Colombia, told this station that the position adopted by the governments which refrained from supporting his country must be respected. He added that each of those governments knows exactly why it acted as it did:

[Begin recording] Basically we are very satisfied with the solidarity shown by the entire continent in support of the Argentine position with regard to the unjust act of aggression to which our country is being subjected by Great Britain. Argentina indicated clearly that it was invoking Article 6 to obtain the solidarity of Latin America, in which it has been successful. The conference remains open. The foreign ministers can meet at any time -- next week or some other time. This possibility undoubtedly remains open.

[Question] Mr Ambassador, could you give us a brief statement regarding your opinion of the four countries that did not vote in favor of support and solidarity for the Argentine Government at the summit meeting of OAS foreign ministers?

[Answer] Well, I think there were different reasons, and I believe each reason must be respected. Each one knows why he acted as he did and, in sum, we will have to wait and see how events develop. [end recording]

The Argentine diplomat said the Argentine people are observing the course of events in the South Atlantic and are fully prepared to enforce their rights in the event of an aggression.

OFFICIAL DENIES PLAN TO INVADE ESSEQUIBO

PA281951 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1711 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Caracas, 28 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- Deputy Foreign Minister Oswaldo Paez Pumar has described as "unfounded" the alleged British fears of an invasion by Venezuela of the Essequibo territory, over which Venezuela claims sovereignty. According to reports, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher voiced such fears to a British radio station last week during comments on the Malvinas Islands crisis. The reports add that the British Government feared Venezuela [as received] would invade Belize [as received] the same way that Argentina occupied the Malvinas early this month.

Paez Pumar said the prime minister "doesn't understand" [ignora] that the nature of the three claims is different. Their only common denominator is the fact that they are "claims" inherited from Britain's colonial and imperialist past, he said. The deputy foreign minister made the statement to newsmen following a wave of rumors here about a Venezuelan military invasion of the territory.

According to the local press, Guyanese Vice President Ptolemy Reid warned Monday in Georgetown of alleged Venezuelan plans to invade the disputed territory. The Guyanese "have spent 16 years preaching this, whereas we have been preaching for 16 years that we hope to engage in a search for satisfactory solutions and a practical settlement of the controversy," Paez Pumar said.

PDVSA WITHDRAWS FUNDS FROM BRITISH BANKS

PA281359 Paris AFP in Spanish 1341 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Caracas, 28 Apr (AFP) -- The Caracas press announced today that the state-owned Venezuelan Petroleum, PDVSA, has withdrawn $2 billion from British banks. PDVSA spokesman told this agency: "We neither confirm nor deny this." The withdrawal of the PDVSA funds has been explained as a "security measure" to prevent any subsequent blocking of these funds by London banks as a result of the Malvinas conflict.

The official PDVSA spokesman, consulted by phone, said: "We will release an official report on this in the next few hours. However, we are not in a position to provide further details or to confirm or deny this information." The funds withdrawn by the PDVSA from Britain represent 25 percent of its financial resources abroad. Its sales levels in 1981 made PDVSA the largest Latin American enterprise.

EL SALVADOR'S MAJANO MEETS WITH LOCAL FIGURES

PA281541 Paris AFP in Spanish 1454 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Caracas, 28 Apr (AFP) -- Adolfo Majano, former member of the Salvadoran government junta, has arrived in Venezuela from Mexico, where he lives in exile, to meet with a number of Venezuelan political leaders, it was learned here today.

Last night Majano reportedly met with former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez. The two men "talked at length." Majano met later with several Social Christian Party leaders.

The nature of the talks between Majano and the Venezuelan politicians has not been disclosed. The only announcement is that Majano is scheduled to return to Mexico on Thursday.

SENATE WANTS U.S. TO STOP DEPORTING WORKERS

FL282327 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2235 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Mexico City, 28 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- A spokesman for the Mexican Senate's Foreign Relations Committee has reported that Mexico will ask the United States to establish an immigration policy to stop the deportation of undocumented Mexican workers. A Mexican parliamentary delegation headed by Senator Joaquin Gamboa Pascoe will take part in the Mexico-United States meeting to be held in Santa Barbara, California, at the end of May. The delegation will stress to the U.S. Government that the establishment of an immigration policy would also help distribute the work force so as to avoid abuses and injustices, the spokesman said.

He added that the United States needs Mexican labor and that Mexican labor does not take jobs away from U.S. citizens. The deportation of workers, he said, causes concern to the Mexican Government and disaffection in the Chicano community.

He did not provide information as to whether Mexico will support the position of Chicano trade unions in the United States which are fighting for recognition of Mexican workers' rights in the neighboring country.

Editorial Scores Policy

PA281536 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 28 Apr 82

[NOTIMEX editorial by (Ricardo Garibay): "Anti-Mexican Action to the North"]

[Text] Last Sunday EL UNIVERSAL carried the following report: Foreigners in the United States will be replaced by citizens. U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service officials will remove illegal aliens from the urban labor force to make those jobs available to U.S. citizens. This means the immigration office will seek out Mexicans working in Yankee companies to arrest and deport them south of the border.

This is a cyclical practice in U.S. Government policy. Whenever things are not going well in public affairs and the people get angry, it becomes time to attack the Mexicans. This diverts the discontent and revives the battered prestige of the state. Obviously, the gigantic population of Mexican illegal aliens in the United States has begun to feel panicky, not only because they will be deprived of their modus vivendi but also because they will receive the traditional treatment -- clubbings and kicks -- that the U.S. police hand out to our illiterate compatriots who are, in addition, then returned to their homeland to practically starve to death.

EL UNIVERSAL continues: Starting this week, immigration officials in San Francisco and their colleagues throughout the country will comb work centers, from hotels to computer companies, to locate and remove the foreigners. It is estimated that in the San Francisco Bay area alone some 2,500 workers will be arrested. This means that jails will take in all kinds of menials, poorly paid people, people who are often robbed and who thankfully and humbly use the service entrances.

Of course this is a source of shame for us. We have been unable to distribute the country's work and wealth equitably. Many Mexicans without homes, food or hope cross the border daily in search of a way of life that they cannot find here and that the U.S. citizens give to them as leftovers from the banquet of the American Way of Life.

That is our responsibility. How can we forget it? It fits quite well within the program of the equalitarian society that is so emphatically proposed and promised by Miguel de la Madrid, the next president of Mexico. And one thing we can do, if nothing else, is to speak out against the cruel demagogic roundup that has already begun and that will bring suffering to many hundreds of thousands of our citizens. That it is a demagogic roundup can be inferred from the remarks made by (Vilma Martinez), president of the Mexican-American Legal Defense Fund: This measure is only a smokescreen to hide the fact that President Reagan has no solution to the unemployment problem in the United States.

TRADE WITH CUBA TO REACH $200 MILLION IN 1982

FL241652 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1641 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Havana, 24 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- It was announced here today that Mexico-Cuba trade is expected to increase to $200 million (92 billion Mexican pesos) this year, heavily favoring Cuba.

The trade section of the Mexican Embassy in Havana said that Mexico purchased Cuban products for $190 million in 1981 and sold $25 million to Cuba, for a total trade figure of $215 million, the largest between the two countries. The embassy added that Mexican purchases from Cuba registered a sharp increase beginning in 1987 with large purchases of sugar (80 percent of the total amount) which are expected to continue this year and the next. In addition to sugar, Mexico is the main client -- 200 tons a year -- of the cement Cuba exports in the region. Other Mexican purchases at present include nickel, chromium, rum, plantains and about 50 more products in smaller quantities.

Up to 1979, Mexico-Cuba trade amounted to some $25 million a year, basically in agricultural products exported to Havana, the trade section concluded.

RADIOACTIVE CAPSULE STOLEN IN TABASCO

PA290248 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0902 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Villahermosa (Mexico), 27 Apr (EFE) -- It was disclosed here today that a very dangerous radioactive capsule was stolen from a store of the company "MaCalleugh Sheaffer of Mexico."

Humberto Medrano Garcia, the company's representative from Tabasco State (in the country's southeast) in this capital, told newsmen that this capsule could kill those who stole it in 5 days. He also said that the radioactive capsule, which is the size of two fists, is used to detect radioactivity in the oil areas of Cactus, in Chiapas state.

Medrano Garcia recalled that a similar capsule was stolen 3 years ago which, according to him, caused the death of an adult and two children.

GOVERNMENT ATTACKED OVER CABINET CHANGES

LA PRENSA Comments

PA281500 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Apr 82 p 1A

["As of Today" column]

[Text] The changes that the regime has announced with its usual truculence constitute official notification to the country that everything will remain the same, and in some cases will become worse. It is also notification that in the high echelons there is no desire to confront Panama's general crisis, or even a clear awareness of its magnitude. The replacement of worn out and discredited figures with others who are less known but who do not provide a guarantee of correction, reveals that the most pressing problems will not be touched at the root, but will be passively allowed to continue getting worse and extending until they blow up in our faces. The moment demanded both boldness and steadiness. Instead, the government chose to engage in intrigues and transactions among the various currents vying for political supremacy. The end result of this struggle is the heterogenous list of officials that was unexpectedly presented to us on Sunday evening. Of course, the common citizen was not the only one who was surprised. The same thing happened to the interested parties. They were neither dismissed or appointed with the elemental courtesy of letting them know in advance. They were not about to be announced. What work plans could have been drafted by individuals who 5 minutes earlier did not even know they would become ministers or heads of autonomous institutions? This is yet another example of the improvisation and irresponsibility with which the process conducts the nation's affairs.

Guard's Policy Scored

PA282206 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 Apr 82 p 8A

[Article by Thelma King H.: "The Danger of Encouraging Minorities"]

[Excerpts] A long time ago I stopped worrying over the comings of the militarymen, except when these seriously affect the nation's health. Damage to the republic is a very real possibility if the commander in chief of the armed institute insists on holding separate meetings with the various ethnic and religious groups.

The United States is a very rich and powerful country, but it lacks the spiritual unity that would enable it to understand other peoples who do have it. This is why, despite its great industry and war power, it daily loses a new battle in the area of international politics.

I have always felt that the primitive way in which the United States solves, or thinks it can solve, the conflicts outside its borders stems from the fact that actions there are never taken as a function of a nation as a whole, but in accordance with the interests of certain groups. For instance, U.S. policy in the Middle East is subject to Israel's interest because the Jewish votes are very important in the elections and because the Jews control U.S. banks. In Latin America, the United States prefers to deal with the dictators rather than with the democratic regimes because, in order to remain in power, the former have no scruples in making all kinds of concessions to the big U.S. companies, especially to the weapons manufacturers. Some candidates base their political machinery on the Irish, others on the Poles, others on the Italians and, lately, some have been basing it on the Latin American colony, which has grown noticeably. There is no NATIONAL [capitals denote boldface as published] policy allowing the United States to become a great nation ruled by the great men it undoubtedly has. Those, however, are not allowed to rise to power....

I think that the military chief's breakfasts, luncheons or dinners with the various ethnic groups are really dangerous. The existing divisions, which are already marked, since the regime's opponents are treated like foreigners, will become even deeper if an effort is made to attend separately to different interests.

Party Criticizes Changes

PA282253 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Apr 82 p 6A

[Text] The government has surprised the country with cabinet changes which show that friendship is a major consideration in government plans. The country did not expect a change of trenches, but a serious selection from among the ranks of the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), the Popular Broad Front (FRAMPO) and the People's Party, which are the parties that support the process. Instead, personal friendship proved to be stronger than a sense of responsibility in determining changes in the cabinet and autonomous institutions. A Liberal Party spokesman said the party has observed that the only policy followed by the government is to repeat the peculiar characteristics of a political process that has used the same men during 14 years of bad administration, alternating them in different positions. The Liberal Party's political line, approved by the political commission, defines it as an opposition party. The spokesman ended by saying that some heads have rolled, and they represent a loss to the government due to their attributes, since they have not been reassigned. Undoubtedly they were fellow travelers only to this point.

Furthermore, the country is the loser because it has been proven once more that the government has no plans, only a worsening sense of administration with one sole practice: political corruption. A spokesman from the Liberal Party's youth faction declared: "For 14 years it has been the same, almost family-like group which has determined the state's policy without taking into consideration the different political currents that exist in the country. Our opinion is that the country's grave economic, political and social crisis will not be solved while decisions are made regarding state affairs without taking into consideration different sectors of society. Only the total democratization of the Panamanian society will guarantee a development of state activities for the benefit of the national majorities. The Liberal Party, faithful to its ideology, will continue struggling, as it has done so far, for the total democratization of our society, to guarantee a just, decorous and humane life for all Panamanians."

PDC Leader's Criticism

PA290040 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 Apr 82 p 6A

[Text] Guillermo Cochez, acting president of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] gave his opinion of the recent changes at the ministries and the government institutions. Important changes regarding the development of the Panamanian nation and its prestige as a nation, such as the comptroller general's position, were not made. The changes announced on Sunday, instead of constituting a true government reorganization, are just another rotation of the same people who are responsible for the present social, economic and political situation in the country. These rotations prove that there is no leading group in the government capable of guiding the country along the path of democratization which is urgently needed. There is no group capable of presenting programs for social and economic development during the rest of President Royo's term.

The rotations are odd since only two of the new appointees were people who had not worked for the government before. Their appointments, however, instead of being based on their capabilities and education, are based on the fact that they are leaders from the managerial front of the Democratic Revolutionary Party. It is regrettable that those who rule the country are not aware of the fact that our situation is very similar to the one that in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala have experienced. If they persist in their stubbornness of not making in-depth changes, which would be of little cost to Panamanians, they will be the only ones responsible for what could happen in Panama.

EL SALVADOR

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ISSUES DECREE ON FUNCTIONS

PA280405 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 27 Apr 82 p 48

[Text] The 60 deputies of the Constituent Assembly met at 1500 to begin their first working session called by Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson, president of the assembly, following the morning's inaugural session. The working session began with all the formalities and moments later it was suspended for a recess that lasted until 1700. The session was then resumed until late at night. During the session, the assembly adopted the 1962 constitution until a new constitution is adopted. The deputies also approved the following articles:

"The Constituent Assembly of the Republic of El Salvador, considering that:

"1. The country has been confronting a critical situation of institutional order characterized by the lack of essential constitutional legal norms that guarantee the respect of human rights and the relations of coexistence of the inhabitants of the republic;

"2. It is a universal principle established in constitutional law that the sovereign powers of a constituent assembly are granted to it to reestablish the republic's institutional life and to guide its legal order. Therefore, based on that principle, decrees must be issued to regulate the activity of the various state organisms, designating the officials who are popularly elected and those of a secondary level and guiding the country's legal order;

"3. It is advisable to maintain and perfect the agrarian, bank and foreign trade reforms expressed in the 15 October 1979 armed forces proclamation for the purpose of achieving an equitable distribution of the national wealth;

"4. In order to guarantee the continuity of the republic's legal and social order, it is advisable that the legal actions of the previous regime be declared valid and that the altered constitutional order be reestablished until this assembly issues the new political constitution.

"Therefore, it decrees:

"Article 1. Until the new political constitution of the state is adopted, the political constitution promulgated by decree No 6 of 8 January 1962 and published in official gazette No 10, volume 194 of 16 April 1962, is adopted as fundamental law of the republic with the following exceptions:

"1. The Constituent Assembly will elect the following officials:

"A. President and vice president of the republic who will act as such from the date that they take office to the date when the new president and vice president, elected in accordance with the political constitution and electoral law that is adopted, take office.

"B. Presidential designates.

"C. Supreme Court and appeals courts judges; members of the Central Electoral Council; president and magistrates of the Accounts Court of the republic as well as their time of service:

"D. The other officials whose election corresponds to the assembly.

"2. The appointment of the ministers and under secretaries of state, the attorney general of the republic and the attorney general of the poor must be confirmed by the Constituent Assembly.

"3. The majority of the members of the assembly will be enough for a quorum but no decision can be made with less than 31 votes of the elected deputies.

"As for the system of substitution of the elected deputies, this will be regulated by the internal regulations of this assembly.

"Article 2. When this decree enters into force, the Constituent Assembly also fully assumes the ordinary legislative functions.

"Article 3. The Constituent Assembly will prepare the drafts of its budget and its salary system which will be directly discussed with the president of the republic. The approved drafts, without any modification, must be incorporated into the bill that the Finance Ministry will present to the Constituent Assembly for its consideration and approval.

"Article 4. The Constituent Assembly recognizes the validity of the legislative actions of the previous regime, especially those related with the social and economic reforms carried out in the agrarian, banking and foreign trade areas.

"The Constituent Assembly also recognizes the validity of the administrative and jurisdictional actions carried out by the previous regime in accordance with the law. The decrees, agreements, regulations and other provisions of the previous regime are valid from the date that they went into force as long as they were promulgated before 28 March 1982.

"Article 5. The judges of the Supreme Court and the appeals courts, the president and magistrates of the Accounts Court of the republic and members of the Central Electoral Council and other officials whose election corresponds to this assembly will continue in their posts until their replacements are elected and they take office.

"Article 6. The previous provisions do not deprive the Constituent Assembly of the authorization it has as sovereign power to decree and promulgate provisional norms of a constitutional character.

"Article 7. This decree will go into force on this date. Issued in the sessions room of the Constituent Assembly in the Legislative Palace on 26 April 1982."

LACK OF QUORUM PREVENTS CHOOSING OF PRESIDENT

PA290240 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] The Constituent Assembly deputies were called today to a plenary session to appoint the provisional president and vice president of the Salvadoran republic. However, there was no quorum and the meeting could not be held at 0900 hours today. The Constituent Assembly board of directors met at 1030 with the deputies who attended but were unable to form a legal quorum. We shall now hear the words of Roberto d'Aubuisson, president of the Constituent Assembly when it was ascertained that there was no quorum. He said that they would wait 10 minutes.

[Begin recording] We shall wait 10 minutes for the rest of the deputies to show up so we can have a quorum. In this waiting period, deputies and especially the people here present, I want to congratulate you for the interest shown in this important decision to form a new government.

I want to ask you in the name of this executive body of the assembly and in my own name, to trust the deputies you elected. I beg of you to remain calm. Do not allow yourselves to be carried away by rumors or speculation, because there are many interests involved which are just trying to destroy the process developed by El Salvador since the beginning of this campaign and the magnificent elections on 28 March. We have won the battle, let us not lose the war.

I ask you for this because, due to pressures, it has also been very difficult for us to carry out our task as you would like and as you are anxiously awaiting. A number of situations have occurred, but I insist that the sovereign will of the Salvadoran people will be respected. Here, within broad and healthy discussions, striving for the main goals of our country, we the deputies you elected on 28 March shall choose the future government of the Salvadoran Republic. Thank you. [end recording]

These were the words of the president of the Constituent Assembly, Maj Roberto d'Abuisson, to the plenum of the deputies, and to the members of the public who attended this morning to hear and see the debates for the appointment of the provisional president and vice president. The plenary session was suspended due to a lack of a quorum, and a session has been called tomorrow at 1000 in order to decide who shall be our provisional president and vice president.

PDC EXPLAINS PARTY'S ABSENCE AT ASSEMBLY MEETING

PA280442 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 27 Apr 82 pp 3, 28

[Excerpt] "The Christian Democratic Party [PDC] made this decision in solidarity with the revolutionary government junta not invited to that meeting," Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes said yesterday when speaking of the absence of the Christian Democrats from the solemn installation meeting of the Constituent Assembly in the Blue Room at the legislative palace. During a surprise press conference held at noon at the PDC locale, following the Constituent Assembly meeting, Rey Prendes added that "it is an old custom in this country to invite the president of the republic or a government junta to the solemn assembly meeting, and its participation is relevant at meetings of this kind. The president of the republic or his delegate has always been the one to answer the speech made by the president of the assembly. It is customary for one state branch to issue the invitation to another state branch in a meeting. On this occasion they did not even send the junta a card or a telegram."

Rey Prendes said that the junta was not invited for two reasons. He explained that "the first reason is that the Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA) has taken things with too much haste. The meetings held at the assembly have been held without coordination and in haste. The second reason could be with a purpose. They did not invite the government junta or the commander in chief of the armed forces. That is why the high command and officers or ministers of state did not attend the meeting. If the commander in chief is not invited the subordinates will not attend. They only allowed the band and the color guard to attend."

MAJOR D'ABUISSON SEES NATIONAL POLITICAL UNITY

PA290448 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1818 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Raul Beltran interview with Maj Roberto d'Abuisson, president of the Salvadoran Constituent Assembly; recorded -- date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] How do you view the political panorama in this nation almost a month after the Constituent Assembly elections?

[Answer] I see great civic fervor; there is great enthusiasm among the people who want to participate and be informed of events. Also in regards to the national unity we are expecting, it will be much better than the image some have projected. Tomorrow's session will be very positive so that the Salvadoran people and the whole world will become aware once more of the civic spirit and democracy existing throughout El Salvadro.

[Question] It has been reasserted during these days that there is tension and that there is no general agreement between the political parties which participated in this event about the appointment of president and vice president. As president of the assembly and as one directly linked to one of the parties, what can you tell us?

[Answer] With the responsibility I feel at this moment, I can guarantee you that there is understanding and that we shall have a government worthy of the Salvadoran people.

[Question] What can you tell the U.S. people and government?

[Answer] I can tell them that El Salvador, with the same spirit it showed on 28 March, will show its capacity for understanding. We are democratic and we shall form a truly national unity government.

[Question] What about the problems you are having now in reaching an understanding with the various sectors?

[Answer] Well, we have no problems such as obstacles. However, remember that the unity government that must emerge from this plenum must be formed on certain prior agreements. That is to say there are no serious difficulties.

[Question] Does this mean El Salvador has a political and not a military solution?
[Answer] It has always had a political solution. Since we held the elections, the solution has been political.

[Question] Do you believe in a political solution?
[Answer] This is what we are doing; this is why we have campaigned, reached 28 March and why the Salvadoran people voted. The solution is political.

[Question] It is obvious that what happened this morning was preplanned. What can you tell us about this? Most of your people from the Nationalist Republican Alliance were not here.

[Answer] Yes, also the National Coalition Party has not come either. However, we have been in contact and are working. In order not to present an image that could be distorted, we shall hold the meeting tomorrow.

FARABUNDO MARTI REPORTEDLY RESUMES TRANSMISSION

PA281710 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] The FMLN is repudiating the Constituent Assembly by fighting. Here is a report from San Salvador: Radio Farabundo Marti has reported that, following heavy fighting, FMLN Vanguard units occupied the garrison in Las Tablas, Zacatecoluca municipality in La Paz Department, 5 km from the capital. This station added that five known people's assassins were captured in this operation. According to the station, two of them tried to escape but were killed in their attempt.

The war bulletin, read by an FMLN spokesman, added that the rebels recovered five weapons and a large quantity of military supplies. Meanwhile, the guerrillas ambushed an army patrol in (Poza Onda), Meanguera, in Morazan Department, 191 km from the capital, killing 17 soldiers and wounding many. In resuming its daily transmissions, Radio Farabundo Marti urged the Salvadoran people to listen to its programs despite inconveniences created by the interference caused by the U.S. flag-ship Caron in the Gulf of Fonseca.

GUATEMALA

JUNTA CONTINUES INVESTIGATING FORMER OFFICIALS

PA282010 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala 0400 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Text] The Comptroller's Office has confirmed the existence of financial irregularities in four government agencies and three decentralized companies. The top officials of these organizations are under arrest.

It was officially announced that the Comptroller's Office detected irregularities in the maintenance department of the Education Ministry, the General Highway Directorate, the National Agrarian Transformation Institute, the National Electrification Institute, the National Agricultural Marketing Institute, the Santo Tomas de Castilla Port Enterprise and the Guatemalan Railroad Enterprise.

Horacio Maldonado Schaad, top spokesman for the military junta, disclosed today that 42 former government officials are under arrest for alleged financial mismanagement. He indicated that five of these officials were arrested in the past few days and that the arrests will continue as the investigations continue into anomalies in state agencies.

Recently, the authorities arrested (Luciano Wong Galdamez), director of the Technical Agricultural Institute, and (Rafael Paredes Cres), chief of transportation of the State Community Development Organization. The two are added to other former government officials under investigation on charges of irregularities in the use of public funds. In the case of (Wong Galdamez), students of the institute had also charged him with coercion to get votes for presidential candidate Anibal Guevara.

General Maldonado Schaad denied that junior officials of the government ministry are implicated in the case of a clandestine printing press found in the home of former Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz. Regarding former Deputy Minister Juan de Dios Reyes Leal who resigned from Miami, Florida, Maldonado Schaad said that if Reyes Leal acted in this manner, it is because he had something pending with the courts.

[Begin Maldonado recording] Reyes Leal said he was going to Miami for treatment of an eye problem. From there he sent his resignation.

[Question] Do you think he has a reason not to want to face justice?

[Answer] I imagine so, otherwise, he would not have left the way he did.

[Question] Will he be arrested if he returns to Guatemala?

[Answer] Probably yes. There are legal charges against him, and the way he has acted is suspicious. We are going to investigate his past activities. [end recording]

On the other hand, Maldonado Schaad said that there are no formal charges against former Agriculture Minister Francisco Bobadilla Palomo, who took asylum in the Brazilian Embassy, while the Foreign Ministry is considering his safe conduct petition.

Meanwhile, some former government officials accused of misuse of state funds are appealing. One of them is Luis Felipe Escobar Colindres, former president of the National Agrarian Transformation Institute, INTA. However, these appeals have been refected by court because they have not been properly filed.

HONDURAS

PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY FORCES ISSUE COMMUNIQUE

PA282100 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1135 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Communique issued by the Lorenzo Zelaya Command of the People's Liberation Forces and broadcast via cassette recording by a Zelaya command force which occupied the Radio America studios in Tegucigalpa at 1130 GMT on 26 April -- recorded]

[Text] Honduran brothers: In Central America, there is currently underway one of the most heroic and just struggles of our times, waged by the Central American people to gain their definite liberation, the (?end) of hunger, foreign [word indistinct], misery and exploitation.

It is also at this moment that the monstruous warmongering and interventionist machinery of the Yankees has gotten underway to drown in blood the revolutionary aspirations of our peoples, particularly the courageous and heroic people of El Salvador and the Sandinist revolutionary people of Nicaragua. The criminal imperialist intervention against Central America is underway and has the full and unconditional support of the liberal government and the Honduran Armed Forces.

There are many facts that prove the above, such as: The presence of over 90 Yankee military advisers in our country who have, in fact, moved in with their entire families: The presence of over 50 Argentine and Chilean military advisers who are linked to the 1st Infantry battalion; the use of our territory by the Somozist counterrevolutionary bands to destabilize the Sandinist popular revolution; the constant incursions of the Honduran Army into Salvadoran territory to fight the forces of the heroic Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front; the start of conversations between the liberal Government and the Yankee State Department and the sinister U.S. Central Intelligence Agency on the installation of a Yankee military base on El Tigre Island and the expansion of the airports of San Pedro Sula, La Ceiba and Comayagua; the open permission for the Salvadoran Army to enter our territory to persecute and terrorize the Salvadoran refugees in this country; the presence of Yankee warships in Honduran territorial waters, specifically in the Gulf of Fonseca.

Honduran brothers, Central American brothers; Honduras is not separated from the crisis of the present domination system in Central America. We are far from being an oasis of peace and of being different from the rest of the Central American sister nations. Honduras is presently facing the worse economic and social crisis of its history, provoked by the Yankee imperialist domination with the support of the local oligarchies against the Honduran people.

This crisis is evidenced in the criminal increase of the prices of staples, such as corn, beans, eggs, cheese, salt, meat and others; of the electricity and potable water costs, of taxes. It is also evidenced in the unemployment of over 240,000 Hondurans; the lack of land for thousands of peasant families doomed to death, hunger and misery; low wages forced on the workers, teachers and low-level employees; the lack of dignified housing for thousands of Hondurans; and the denial of the right of health and education to the needy Honduran.

The present crisis of Honduran society is the result of domination structures of the [word indistinct] capitalism and of Yankee imperialism, which offer no solution to the nation's problems. These have been shown to be historically incapable of guaranteeing the social and economic development of Honduras.

An ideological campaign has been maliciously started, indicating that revolutionary violence has no place in Honduras because the Hondurans are different. In the meantime, the army, the Public Security Forces, FUSEP, the G-2 and the exploiters' paramilitary bands, impose violence against the people, arresting, torturing and murdering the leaders of the popular and revolutionary movement and Central American patriots. The disappearance of over 60 political prisoners and the existence of the clandestine cemeteries express the criminal collective and underhanded repression of the oligarchic and imperialist enemy against the people.

The repressive and reactionary campaign promoted by the exploiters requires the people's revolutionary action as the only means to liberate our exploited sectors. That is why today the People's Revolutionary Forces, FPR, Lorenzo Zelaya Command, a political and military organization, has been organized to carry out the extended revolutionary popular war in Honduras. It is the only way that will lead us to liberation and the establishment of a popular revolutionary government, that will defend the fundamental interests of the Honduran majorities.

By extended revolutionary war, we mean the struggle of the entire Honduran people against the imperialistic and oligarchic exploiters, through the use of every available means of struggle, political and military, armed and unarmed, legal and illegal, mass and guerrilla actions, [words indistinct] the only guarantee to overthrow the exploiters and build the new society.

As a tribute to that great peasant leader, guide and organizer of the first initiatives to carry out the armed revolutionary struggle in Honduras, the FPR forces are proud to carry the name of Lorenzo Zelaya.

The historic need of the Honduran people to put an end forever to repression, misery, exploitation and oppression, has created the conditions for the birth of a new type of organization, a revolutionary organization, that neither fears nor kneels before the enemy, as others did in the past. We are an armed organization which will lead the people to face our common enemy until achieving its total destruction and, over their ashes, build the foundations of the new society. Such is the organization that we, the People's Revolutionary Forces, FPR, Lorenzo Zelaya, intend to be. We may say that it is a historic need of the Honduran people to carry out the revolution which has promoted the appearance of the FPR [word indistinct].

SAHSA AIRLINER HIJACKED WITHIN COUNTRY

FPR Charged

PA281745 Paris AFP in Spanish 1720 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 28 Apr (AFP) -- A Dash-7 plane of the Honduran SAHSA airline which was making an internal flight from La Ceiba to Tegucigalpa was hijacked by a guerrilla group this morning. A civil aeronautics source said that the plane is now at Tegucigalpa's Toncontin Airport.

The hijackers, who are members of the Lorenzo Zelaya Peoples Revolutionary Forces [FPR], the same organization which occupied a local radio station for 10 minutes last Monday, have apparently asked for the apostolic nuncio but the group's demands are not yet known.

Some Hostages Released

PA281816 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1736 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Report by Irma Santos from Toncontin Airport]

[Excerpt] A few minutes ago, 14 people, 13 women and 1 boy debarked the plane. The group of women released by the hijackers includes two stewardesses. From where we are, we could see everything very well and were able to observe that the two stewardesses were the ones who opened the door to the aircraft. The other women and the child stepped down first, and were followed by the stewardesses, who then closed the door from the outside.

A SAHSA bus immediately picked up the released group. They are now at the Honduran Air Force terminal. We repeat: 14 people were released by the hijackers. The plane has now started its motors again.

Hijackers' Demands

PA282228 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2100 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] We are now in touch with Carlos Montoya, Honduran National Congress vice president, who has informed us that the demands of the men who are holding the Dash-7 aircraft include no less than 1 million lempiras. The vice president has telephoned our press department to give us this scoop.

[Montoya] Thanks, Radio America. We intend to use this station to keep the people informed on the absurd demands of a group of persons who have kidnapped an aircraft at our airport. They demand 1 million lempiras in cash. This is a ridiculous demand because of the circumstances in Honduras, where the government makes great efforts to use available funds to meet the needs of the people.

We want to inform the nation that the funds of the people cannot be used to serve the interests of foreign nations who hope to sow anarcny in our country. We want the solidarity of all groups and persons and communications media to disuade these persons who, rather childishly, hope to abscond with 1 million lempiras for their private profit, or for nations which have other plans for our national sovereignty.

I would like Radio America, with its powerful communications facility, to keep a line open so that the Honduran people can give their opinion on the absurd pretentions of small armed groups against the Honduran democratic government.

We believe that the scant funds available to the government, at this time of crisis, should be channeled toward developmental programs for the good of the people. Under no circumstances will we permit our national funds to be taken under pressure or violence, and be used for personal profit or for the benefit of armed groups attacking our sovereignty, democracy and peace.

We believe that, this afternoon, the congress of the republic will pass a law against terrorism and kidnapping so that the Honduran nation can guarantee peace and security to all those who live in this country.

[Question] Besides the million lempiras demanded by the kidnappers, do you have any information on the identity of the armed groups or any other demands made on the government?

[Answer] It seems that they have identified themselves as the Lorenzo Zelaya group. This name does not fit them because Lorenzo Zelaya was a patriotic member of the Liberal party of Honduras. He was a man who spent all his life in our civic struggle and whose identity in our country is fully identified with the democratic and progressive government of Honduras. If we learn of any other demands we shall try to inform you by telephone.

Official Discusses Issues

PA290020 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2251 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] We have contacted the control tower and were able to interview Col (Oscar Moncada), who is coordinating this activity from the control tower. He said there are four masked hijackers with a large quantity of dynamite. Colonel (Moncada) made the following statements exclusively for this station:

[Begin recording] We are dealing with them through the apostolic nuncio who is with the hijackers. Furthermore, we are analyzing some of the demands of the hijackers. We have supplied them with a power plant because the air conditioning system stopped functioning after the plane ran out of fuel. The runway is blocked to prevent the plane from taking off. At the same time, we are trying to settle this in a manner which will prevent any injuries to the passengers. We are doing everything that is possible at the armed forces command level.

[Question] What can you tell about the shots that were fired?

[Answer] One of the hijackers possibly became nervous and fired a shot in the air to prevent a car from approaching the aircraft. However, they had asked for the apostolic nuncio to bring them some food and that was what we were doing.

[Question] Their demands are already known. They have reportedly asked for 1 million lempiras. Do you know anything about it?

[Answer] I have no knowledge of that. Their list is in the hands of the armed forces authorities and I have no details of the requests.

[Question] How many persons participated in the hijacking?

[Answer] Apparently four, according to information.

[Question] It was reported that they are carrying dynamite and heavy caliber weapons?

[Answer] That is what they said; that they had such material on board.

[Question] Colonel, are the talks held frequently, or at long intervals?

[Answer] At first they were frequent, but as time goes along, they have become more spaced. I believe that we will reach some kind of settlement.

[Question] Are the operations being coordinated with the control tower and the Honduran Air Force?

[Answer] With the Armed Forces Command.

[Question] Have any of the hijackers been identified yet?

[Answer] No, we only suspect their identity, but they continue wearing their masks.

[Question] What security measures will be maintained? Is the airport to remain closed indefinitely until this problem is settled?

[Answer] Definitely. It must remain closed to avoid further incidents.

[Question] Will any security measures be established in the future to avoid this type of problems?

[Answer] Yes, definitely.

[Announcer] You have just heard the statements of Col (Oscar Aquiles Moncada).

Hijackers Identified

PA290619 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0537 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 28 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran police have reported that they have a possible identification of the hijackers who are holding 28 persons hostage aboard a Dash-7 aircraft hijacked in Tegucigalpa today. According to the policy, Ivan Medina, Julio Perez, Rene Lopez and Carlos Torrano, the last of whom is a 24-year-old medical student, are reportedly the members of the group of masked individuals who are armed with pistols and explosives, and who have threatened to blow up the airplane if the government fails to meet their demands.

Among other things, they are demanding $250,000; the release of 39 persons; the broadcasting of a communique over the radio; and permission to depart freely. Initially they had asked for half a million dollars; the release of 89 persons; and broadcasting of the communique over a national network.

The airplane is still on the main runway of Toncontin International Airport in Tegucigalpa with its engines and lights turned off, in takeoff position. The hijackers warned control tower officials that they have placed a mixture of dynamite and nitroglycerin at each of the aircraft's doors and in the baggage compartment to forestall a commando operation by the army.

Most of the hostages have complained of breathing difficulties, because the Dash-7 is a small airplane and its ventilation systems are not working.

The hijackers distributed Valium and Librium to the hostages to relax them and help them to sleep.

The hostages include an executive of the U.S. Standard Fruit Company, a subsidiary of the Castle and Cook Company, two newsmen from the NBC television network, a Nicaraguan newsman and other U.S. citizens.

It has been unofficially reported that the government will not yield to their demands and has asked the hijackers to release the hostages in exchange for sufficient fuel to reach the country of their choice. Thus, the situation is stable at the airport in Tegucigalpa, where military personnel and newsmen are on guard, awaiting a solution.

More on Demands

NC290624 Paris AFP in English 0613 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 29 Apr (AFP) -- The commando group holding 17 hostages aboard a Honduran airlines jet at Toncontin Airport here is comprised of four people wearing masks and armed with pistols, Honduran civil aviation director said tonight.

The group has demanded 500,000 dollars, the release of 10 political prisoners, 5,000 liters of kerosene for the plane, withdrawal of security troops from the airport and the reading of nationwide radio of a statement about their organization, the People's Liberation Forces.

Papal Nuncio Andres Cordero, who is acting as mediator between Honduran authorities and the hijackers, left the plane during the evening with a passenger suffering from a cardiac problem. The man was taken to a military hospital near the airport. "Everything will work out," Monsignor Cordero said. The hijackers earlier in the day had released women and children from among the 30 passengers aboard the jet.

NICARAGUA

BARRICADA DENOUNCES U.S. DELAYING TACTICS

PA282145 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 23 Apr 82 p 3

[Editorial: "The Boycotting of Negotiations -- Washington Unveiled"]

[Text] The Reagan administration's refusal to set a date for the talks with Nicaragua, within the framework of the Mexican proposal, has revealed a fact, which although apparently obvious, should be carefully weighed by our people.

This fact is that the talks to which the U.S. has formally committed itself, in the wake of efforts made by Mexico, are an offshoot of the struggle on the diplomatic level to obtain sovereignty for Nicaragua and the Central American region. This struggle, and any other true expression of our people's struggle for their independence and self-determination is bound to meet strong resistance in the United States which seeks to preserve its dominance in the area through whatever means it can find.

That is why the Reagan administration's delaying tactics, its "double game" -- of not discarding any option, neither dialogue, nor military aggression, and its unending quest for positions of force (from maneuvers like the one Eden Pastora went along with, to trying to exclude Mexico from the talks and undermining trust between the two sides through provocations) -- should be viewed as a not necessarily desperate but rather a calculated reaction, to avoid their commitment.

The Reagan administration perhaps believed that when it presented its eight-point proposal, in which it tries to deprive Nicaragua of legitimate rights such as national defense, it would receive an intransigent reply from the revolution, compared to the apparent openmindedness of Washington. However, Nicaragua had no objections to discussing Washington's eight points, and presented 13 points in defense of Nicaraguan interests, which in no way threaten U.S. national security.

This first exchange of proposals has at least temporarily left Washington without any other means to continue trying to obstruct the start of negotiations. Its new tactic seems aimed at prolonging the issue and encouraging distrust and provocation, so as to claim that the process of negotiations in itself is not a valid method for solving the differences.

This is the current situation, which of course cannot be prolonged indefinitely. Each pretext used to postpone the beginning of negotiations is a blow to the credibility of U.S. policy. Each arrogant and forceful act against Nicaragua bounces back against the Reagan administration as a confirmation of the Nicaraguan denunciations, and gives the world the opportunity to see which side is being stubborn and which is irresponsibly opposed to peace in Central America.

For this reason, the second attempt made in less than a month by the revolutionary government to get the United States to set a date for the negotiations has a political importance which should not be underestimated. It is not a matter of begging, and it does not indicate weakness; it is a serious summons without false illusions, which shows responsibility and revolutionary realism. It shows determination to continue till the end with this complementary means of struggling for the defense of our revolutionary conquests.

Our struggle is and will be in keeping with the seriousness of our political guidelines and above all, in keeping with the interests of this revolution, whose future is being guarded with the zeal and responsibility it warrants because of its meaning for us as a people and because it is part of the hopes for a future of freedom for the Latin American peoples.

FOREIGN MINISTER PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINA

PY290057 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1953 GMT 28 Apr 82

[By NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS correspondent]

[Text] Washington, 28 Apr -- During an exclusive interview with NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto said: "There should be no doubt that we will be willing to go very much further in support of Argentina, should the need arise." He added: "We do not want mere verbal solidarity which ends with the support rendered to this resolution; we will be willing to go very much further should the need arise. We will be following the course of events very closely."

He also said: "We want our actions to reflect our deep and actual feelings of brotherhood with Argentina."

When asked whether that position would not raise more difficulties for Nicaragua he answered: "Our actions are based on principles and if difficulties arise because of this conduct, those difficulties are welcome, because it would be more difficult to go against our conscience and against what we believe to be right. That is the reason why we have staged a revolution."

Concerning the contacts made with Argentina's representatives, and asked whether such contacts would open new bilateral channels, in addition to favoring a rapprochement between the Government of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and the Argentine Government, D'Escoto said: "I believe that, undeniably, a new rapprochement that we didn't have before took place in this painful hour for the American family."

He went on: "The same thing happens in many families; on many occasions, family members do not see each other for some time; but when one of them has a difficulty, all of them get together. Nicaragua was present here." D'Escoto also confirmed that in the next few hours he will meet Argentina's Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez at UN headquarters.

AGRARIAN TRIBUNAL REPORTS ON LAND EXPROPRIATIONS

PA261313 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] The Agrarian Tribunal, the legal body created by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction has received 82 appeals and has decided on 62 of these cases up to date.

Eddy Grijalva, president of this tribunal, said that in all these cases it had been ascertained that the properties had been totally abandoned and added that this shows the willingness of the revolutionary leadership to properly and justly apply the agrarian reform law. We shall now interview Eddy Grijalva, president of the Agrarian Tribunal:

[Begin recording] Since revolutionary power was installed in Nicaragua on 19 July 1979, our government and the Revolutionary Directorate have been concerned with the rights of our peasants who were most basely exploited during the defeated Somozist regime.

With the passing of the agrarian reform law, the FSLN is complying with its historic program proclaimed in 1969. The government junta with its historic program also announced to the Nicaraguan people on 18 June 1979, that land would belong to he who worked it and that the indiscriminate exploitation of property would be eliminated in all its forms. In short, all ways of exploiting the peasant, existing during the Somozist period would be eliminated.

When the agrarian reform law was passed, the FSLN and the revolutionary government gave a historic reply to our people who won their rights in combat and therefore deserve them.

[Question] The FSLN has reaffirmed its decision of not returning lands to the Somozists. How many of these properties has the Agrarian Tribunal considered?

[Answer] We have received some 80 appeals since the first actions based on the agrarian reform law were taken by the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform. From these we have handed down 62 decisions in which we have confirmed the expropriation and the lands affecting a total of 49,132 manzanas.

This shows that the political intentions of the FSLN are being fulfilled according to the agrarian reform law and its implementation.

With the expropriation of 49,132 manzanas, the FSLN, acting through the respective organizations, will give better lands to the peasant so they can work them and help consolidate our revolutionary process through the peasant-worker alliance and by increasing our agricultural production.

What is more, in these 62 cases decided by the agrarian tribunal, we have determined a criminal attitude by the affected owners who had neglected their properties in open violation of the revolutionary principles of promoting production and productivity. On some of the affected properties inspected by the Agrarian Tribunal, it has ascertained that there was in fact the intent to boycott the economy of our revolutionary process.

HAVANA NOTES START OF OCEAN VENTURE MANEUVERS

FL290100 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Arp 82

[Text] The provocative U.S. naval military maneuvers called Ocean Venture 82 began today in the Caribbean basin. They are considered the largest in recent times. Forty-five thousand U.S. soldiers supported by 60 ships, including 2 aircraft carriers, 350 airplanes -- several bombers among them -- and aircraft equipped with the sophisticated AWACS espionage system are participating in this new display of arrogance with openly intimidatory looks.

The maneuvers orchestrated by the Pentagon under the false pretense of testing the West's capability to defend the region will last until 16 May and will cover the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico.

Learning of Washington's new war exercise, observers wonder about the reason for these shows of military might precisely when neighboring countries like Mexico, Cuba and Nicaragua are earnestly proposing solutions to disputed matters and conflictive situations through constructive, peaceful talks. They conclude that there can be only one answer to this question: The United States continues to insist on military force as the basic tool of its Latin America policy. They believe that the nature of the provocative Ocean Venture 82 maneuvers leaves no doubt that they are an important part of U.S. plans for probable aggressive, interventionist actions in Central America and the Caribbean.

MONTANE OPENS REVOLUTIONARY THEORY CONFERENCE

FL262338 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] The international theoretical conference on the general and specific characteristics of the revolutionary process in Latin America and the Caribbean opened this morning at the Palace of Conventions. The conference is sponsored by the magazine INTERNACIONAL and the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC]. Comrade Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo, and Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Politburo, as well as other members of the PCC Central Committee, chaired the opening session. Jesus Montane Oropesa delivered the opening speech.

INTERNACIONAL magazine is represented by Comrade Girgin Girginov, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and of the INTERNACIONAL editorial staff. So far, 31 delegations from revolutionary parties and organizations have arrived, including those of El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua.

Armed Struggle Essential

FL281735 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1519 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Manuel Pineiro, member of the party Central Committee, has asserted that the Latin American and Caribbean movement has the basic and enduring capability to formulate its own tactics and strategy. He said that they are based on the nature of the imperialist domination of the continent and the policies of U.S. administrations.

Pineiro spoke during the international theoric conference on Latin America and the Caribbean being held here, and noted that in this region there is a formidable variety of national and class struggles. He also outlined the decisive ingredients needed to achieve revolutionary triumph in the continent and pointed out that these were unity, and masses and arms.

Stressing the importance of unity, Pineiro pointed out that it guarantees the advancement of democratic, popular and anti-imperialist revolutions in our continent. Regarding the role of the masses, Pineiro asserted that the experiences of Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada demonstrate precisely that the struggle against dictatorships and for democracy has the greatest potential for mobilizing the masses and other friendly political forces.

He placed special importance on the role of armed struggle which, together with unity and the masses, will secure the success of genuine revolutions. Arms, Pineiro said, are indispensable to the triumph of any liberating revolution in the continent and asserted that each country will carry out its revolution, taking sustenance from the roots of its own national history.

FMLN Delegate Interviewed

PA290540 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Havana Radio special correspondent Pedro Martinez Pirez interview with (Santiago Lopez), FMLN delegate to the conference on revolutionary processes in Latin America and the Caribbean in Havana; place and date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] I would like your opinion of the importance of this conference at this time for El Salvador.

[Answer] I believe -- and I believe that in this I share the opinion of the Latin American revolutionary movements and parties -- that the meeting hosted by INTERNACIONAL magazine and the Communist Party of Cuba is a real necessity at the present stage of the revolution because it makes it possible to discuss our problems, our successes, our weaknesses and our errors and to learn about the common experiences of the revolutionary movement in Latin America. On the basis of this discussion, we will be able to establish and develop a more effective course of revolutionary action against imperialism throughout the continent.

[Question] It has been said that all revolutionary processes in Latin America must necessarily be anti-imperialist. What do you think, (Santiago)?

[Answer] Given the total presence of imperialist policy on the Latin American continent, I believe that the anti-imperialist position will always be at the crest of the Latin American peoples' struggle. Since every revolutionary objective of the peoples encounters resistance from U.S. imperialism, the struggle will generate that anti-imperialist content.

[Question] (Santiago), let us talk now about El Salvador. We have reports of statements by Monsignor Rivera y Damas and also of the interfering presence of the United States in all the political arrangements that are being made there in the wake of the electoral farce.

[Answer] I believe that the results of the 28 March electoral farce have been a clear demonstration that those elections, as the FMLN said, would not be -- as they have not been -- a guarantee for the solution of the political crisis and were not the path to take our people to peace or the path to resolve the revolutionary people's war that is underway. The results have demonstrated this, I repeat, very clearly. They have opened the door for the legal installation of fascism in El Salvador.

The elections have represented a failure for the United States, because the propaganda used before the elections claimed that they were the path to democracy, while the results have been shown to be diametrically the opposite. I repeat that they are not the path to peace; they have not solved the crisis and they will not stop the war that the people are waging at this time.

Fascism has come to power. So far, the Christian Democrats have not been able to establish a coalition with the fascists. Although such a coalition would be disadvantageous for U.S. policy, not even that has been achieved.

It is therefore natural for Monsignor Rivera y Damas to show concern. I believe that is a positive sign for him to admit that such a situation is disadvantageous to the interests of the Salvadoran people.

[Question] Although the Christian Democrats are having trouble remaining in power, the United States has reaffirmed its support the Salvadoran military junta and the present rulers.

[Answer] It seems to me that this is an obvious indication of the meager political resources available to the Reagan government in El Salvador. It has no other recourse. It has no other force to lean on. In the final analysis, the fascists are the most loyal, constant and firm allies of U.S. imperialism. This clearly explains why the fascists even dared to confront the Reagan government with a fait accompli. They know that while it is true that they need U.S. military support, the United States also needs them. The proof of this is that reaffirmed support that you mentioned.

Conference Concludes

FL290030 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Report by (Rafael Velazquegui) from Havana's Palace of Conventions]

[Text] Tell me how you interpret and apply the dialectics of the general and the specific in the revolutionary process and I will tell you and who you are and where you are heading. This was said by Girgin Girginov, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee, in closing the international theory conference on the general and specific characteristics of the revolutionary processes in Latin America and the Caribbean which ended this afternoon in Havana.

Jesus Montane and Antonio Perez Herrero, both alternate members of our party's Politburo, attended the closing ceremony. The conference was sponsored by INTERNACIONAL magazine and the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC]. It sat for 3 days at the Palace of Conventions.

PCC Central Committee member Raul Valdes Vivo spoke at the final session, highlighting the fundamental characteristics of the Cuban revolution. The first socialist revolution of the Western Hemisphere represented a vital combination of the general and specific processes, he noted.

I asked several guests and they agreed that the meeting was a fruitful exchange of information among a large part of the major revolutionary organizations of South and Central America and the Caribbean.

BAHAMAS

PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED; ELECTION SET FOR 10 JUNE

FL290106 Bridgetown CANA in English 0035 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, 28 Apr (CANA) -- Bahamian Prime Minister Lynden Pindling today dissolved Parliament and called a general election for June 10, the government announced. Under the constitution of the former British colony an election was mandatory before October.

Mr Pindling's Progressive Liberal Party has ruled the Caribbean island nation for 14 years.

GUYANA

ARMED FORCES DECLARED ON STATE OF ALERT

PA281956 Paris AFP in Spanish 1905 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Georgetown, 28 Apr (AFP) -- The Guyanese armed forces have been declared on alert due to the government's fears that Venezuela might stage a military invasion. Today's banner headline in the official newspaper Guyana CHRONICLE, said that the mobilization of the armed forces, the militia and the entire population is the best means of protecting the Guyanese territory.

An official Foreign Ministry spokesman today confirmed the government's fears that Venezuelan troops might eventually be dispatched to the border between the two countries.

PERU

PORT WORKERS DECLARE BOYCOTT ON BRITISH SHIPS

PY282028 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1720 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Lima, 28 Apr (TELAM) -- As of tomorrow, Callao port workers will start a boycott against British ships when the (Silverfjord) arrives from Yokohama with a cargo that includes 379 cars. This boycott will be the second boycott declared in Peru. The first was declared at the Matarani port located in the southern region of the country.

The dock workers noted that they will form groups to guarantee that the boycott is carried out. According to labor leaders this is an expression of solidarity with Argentine dock workers.

URUGUAY

ARGENTINE, UK BATTLE CASUALTIES WOULD BE TREATED

PY280858 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2250 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Text] Montevideo, 27 Apr (TELAM) -- Uruguay will help those wounded in combat confrontations between Argentina and Great Britain, according to a statement here tonight by the Interior Minister Gen Yamandu Trinidad.

The minister added that the wounded of both nations would be aided equally, and that necessary provisions for this had been made through his ministry, the Ministry of National Defense and the Ministry of Public Health.